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LIFE-SAVING SONGS REVEALED



PIERCE THE VEIL
"I'VE HAD A ROUGH YEAR"
VIC OPENS UP

6 AWARD WINNING POSTERS



BLACK VEIL BRIDES



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THE BEAST ROARS BACK!

THE OFFICIAL
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ROCK CHART
WHO'S NUMBER 1!?

IRON MAIDEN

WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

STEVE HARRIS TAKES YOU INSIDE 2015'S MOST EPIC ALBUM!

PLUS

THE X-Z OF MAIDEN

ED-EXPLODING FACTS INSIDE!



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CONTENTS

■ ISSUE 1575 JULY 4, 2015



HELLO, READERS. They say nothing in life is certain, but... pfffffft. I can say, with absolute certainty, that I wouldn't be writing this without Iron Maiden. The first album I owned was *A Real Live One* on cassette.

The first gig I went to was Iron Maiden at Manchester Apollo, November 6, 1995 (thanks, dad!). Who knows? Without them maybe I'd be working for Goldfish Owner Monthly. Given Maiden changed my life, it's my distinct pleasure to welcome them back onto K!'s cover for our world-exclusive interview with Steve Harris about their new album, *The Book Of Souls*. Comebacks don't come bigger. Enjoy!

George
Deputy Editor

NEWS ON THE COVER:

Pierce The Veil talk new music and broken bones (p4). Plus, inside Disturbed's comeback (p8), and Billie Joe Armstrong's secret show (p9)!



FEATURES

ON THE COVER: We go inside the sensational return of Iron Maiden (p16), before taking an equally deep dive into All Time Low's life-changing 2015 (p22). Plus, we've Wilson (p38), Refused, (p26), songs that saved You Me At Six's life (p42) and the gnarliest onstage injuries ever (p40). Someone call a doctor!

POSTERS ON THE COVER:

It's a Relentless Kerrang! Awards winners special (p30)!

LIVES

We crossed the Channel to France for three days of sun, rock and no sleep at Hellfest (p46). Slipknot, Slash and a whole load of french black metal fans were there, too.

REVIEWS

Something New Grave this way comes... It's Ashestoangels (p50), exhuming their last album with extra bits sewn on, while Chad Gilbert (p51) from New Found Glory is coming over all '50s on his new solo album.

GIGS

Matt Skiba returns to his day job, as Alkaline Trio prepare for shows with fellow punks NOFX (p56), while we give you the lowdown on the Isle Of Wight music scene (p58).

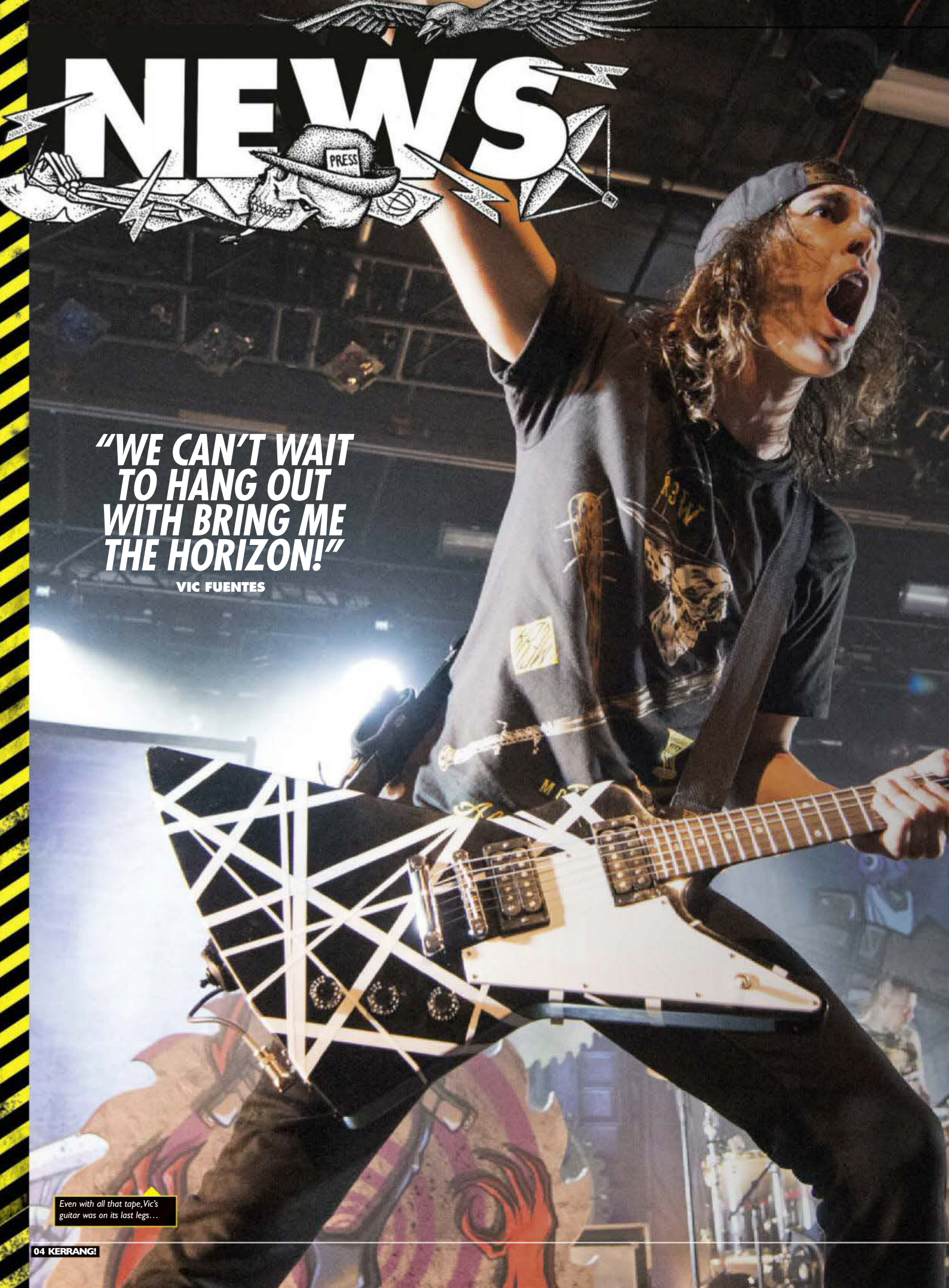
REFUSED p26

Punk icons show us what they had for breakfast



2015: THE YEAR OF ALL TIME LOW p22

At least Alex had the sense to hide the fact he'd forgotten his dentures...



NEWS

**"WE CAN'T WAIT
TO HANG OUT
WITH BRING ME
THE HORIZON!"**

VIC FUENTES

Even with all that tape, Vic's guitar was on its last legs...

THE BIG STORY

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVER

“OUR NEW ALBUM IS FROM THE HEART!”

FRONTMAN **VIC FUENTES** TAKES US INSIDE **PIERCE THE VEIL**'S NEW ALBUM, OPENS UP ON HOSPITAL TRIPS AND TALKS READING & LEEDS...



FINALLY, WE'VE GOT our first taste of Pierce The Veil's as-yet-untitled upcoming album! On June 18, the band dropped their brand-new single, *The Divine Zero*, from out of nowhere, with frontman Vic Fuentes dedicating the track to their fans.

"There is nothing more special to us than being able to share new music with all of you," the singer said, clearly delighted to give fans a glimpse of the band's next chapter. But it hasn't all been plain sailing in camp PTV.

The band kicked off Warped Tour last week minus a member, as guitarist Tony Perry lay in hospital suffering from some serious mountain-biking injuries in the shape of three broken ribs, a torn shoulder, collapsed lung and a broken sternum. Ouch.

And that's not the only emotional obstacle the band have overcome lately, with Vic suggesting that writing their new record has been a tough one for him personally. But we'll let the frontman explain that for himself...

HI, VIC! WHAT'S THE NEW SINGLE, THE DIVINE ZERO, ALL ABOUT?

"I've been going through a pretty stressful, kinda rough time over the last year or so. It's kind of about my personal issues and mixing it in with relationship

stuff. I always think about getting something personal in these songs. So, for me, it's kind of about that."

AND HOW'S THE RESPONSE BEEN TO IT SO FAR?

"So far it's been really awesome. The fans picked up on it really quick. We didn't give any notice or anything, we just dropped it Beyoncé style (*laughs*)! We understand the fans have been waiting a long time for music, they've been really patient. It's been fun to see it spread like wildfire. We've played it twice at Warped so far. The first time we played it, we had just put the song out the night before and people were already singing along! We only finished it a week ago – I'm still trying to learn it!"

SO, YOU ONLY JUST FINISHED IT?!

"Yeah! I finished the vocals at my home studio, like, a week ago. Finished it, sent it off to be mastered the next day and then, the day after, it was on iTunes! It's super-fresh. We might have set a world record for the fastest turnaround for a track."

IS IT A GOOD TASTE OF WHAT'S COMING ON THE ALBUM, THEN?

"Yeah, I think so. We wanted to put out a first song that doesn't have many curveballs. We've got a lot

NEWS

THE BIG STORY



Mike and Vic: always confusing 'strumming' and 'drumming'

of diverse songs, though – some slow ones, some faster ones. A mix – they won't all be like that."

AND ARE THEY AS PERSONAL AS THE DIVINE ZERO?

"Yeah, they are, actually. I think that's one of the reasons it's taking me such a long time to finish it. So much of this album is from the heart and real life and true experience. I don't wanna put out something that's made up, y'know? That's what I've been searching for."

WHEN DO YOU SEE IT FINALLY COMING OUT, THEN?

"I dunno. I guess we'll finish it off when we've come off of Warped and get it out as soon as possible. I don't have a date or anything. Everything with Tony hit us pretty hard, so we're just trying to figure out everything one step at a time."

HOW IS TONY, AND HOW HAVE YOU GUYS COPE WITH HIS ACCIDENT?

"He's getting better! This situation kinda got thrown at us all at once, it was a rough place to be in. When he got hurt we had to figure out what we were gonna do – if he could play or whether we needed to get a replacement. When we found out the extent of it we were like, 'Oh my god, we're going to need someone to get us through Warped.' So, we rang up an old friend from San Diego called Jesse Barrera, from an old band called My American Heart that I did my very first tour with. It's really cool to have Jesse out."

AND YOU WENT TO VISIT TONY IN HOSPITAL?

"Yeah, we were actually finishing The Divine Zero while going to see him. I went separately to the guys as I was finishing the vocals that day. He's home now, relaxing. He can't do a whole lot. He's just taking it slow. Every day everyone's asking about Tony, but we're just waiting it out until he gets better. We don't want to rush it. We're taking it day-by-day right now – it was a wake-up call for us to take stuff more carefully."



Lockjaw: no laughing matter

OTHER THAN TONY'S INJURY, HOW'S WARPED GOING?

"It's been awesome otherwise! It's the first couple days, so we're meeting back up with all our friends we haven't seen in a while. I've just been serving food to all the bands at the BBQ. You can volunteer to do it!"

SOUNDS GOOD! AND WHAT'VE YOU GOT PLANNED FOR READING & LEEDS?

"I know it's a big deal over there, like Warped is for us. It's a long way from home but we're going to bring as much as we can with us stage-show-wise. We'll be

putting a lot into it. We can't wait... that's all I can say!"

WHICH BANDS ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THERE?

"I love festivals and I'm so excited to see Alexisonfire. They haven't played in so long. We've toured with Bring Me The Horizon a lot – if we get to hang out with those guys, that'd be awesome, too!"



Stream the new single on
Kerrang.com



A pre-accident
Tony and Jaime

"TONY'S INJURY WAS A WAKE-UP CALL FOR US!"

VIC FUENTES



Vic hugs Tony better
in hospital

"THANKS TO OUR FANS!"

TONY SENDS A MESSAGE
TO YOU LOT...

"Thank you is an understatement! Hearing from everyone and seeing your support is definitely motivation to get better and get back out there! "I can't believe the amount of love I've gotten from fans on social media. I've also had a ton of pictures and fan letters sent via the guys while they're out on Warped. "I'm bummed I can't be out there meeting everyone right now, but I really appreciate everything and can't wait to get back on tour!"

THE FEED
THIS WEEK IN **ROCK**



LOOK WHO'S BA-A-A-ACK!

DISTURBED FRONTMAN DAVID DRAIMAN UNVEILS THE BAND'S SURPRISE COMEBACK RECORD, IMMORTALIZED...



IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS since the last album by platinum-selling metal titans, Disturbed — and four since the they went on hiatus. Then, from out of nowhere, they make an announcement that they're not only back, but they've got a whole new album recorded and ready to go. We asked frontman David Draiman how they managed to keep it a secret and what we can expect...

HI, DAVID! HOW HARD WAS IT TO RECORD AN ALBUM IN SECRET?!

"Incredibly! There were a lot of nondisclosure agreements, a lot of threats, a lot of white lies, a lot of people pissed off at us or wondering why we all fell off the face of the planet for four months. We recorded at our producer Kevin Churko's studio in Las Vegas. It isn't a great town to lie low in, but, on the other hand, it's the sort of place where you might expect to see one of us hanging out!"

DID YOU DO IT THIS WAY PURELY FOR THE IMPACT YOU'D HAVE?

"Yeah, we wanted to give fans a nice surprise. There's something to be said for build-up and anticipation, but it's always nice when you've woken up in the morning not knowing you're going to get something special."

WHAT FACTORS MADE YOU DECIDE TO COME BACK FROM HIATUS?

"Coming back was always part of the plan, and the musical landscape made it perfect. If you look at the news Spotify just put out, which said metal fans were the most dedicated, most voracious of music fans, or you look at global tour and festival statistics, it's just a great time to be involved in hard rock and heavy metal. I became a father, which was amazing, but, at the same time, you're watching bands like Slipknot and Five Finger Death Punch doing their thing and you do start to just really miss it."

NEW SINGLE THE VENGEFUL ONE IS A SLAB OF PURE METAL. HOW REPRESENTATIVE IS IT OF THE ALBUM?

"The album goes in a bunch of different directions, stylistically and thematically. It's kind of all over the place, to be honest! The Vengeful One is probably one that is most stereotypically classic Disturbed. It's telling what is, to me, the fictitious story of the angel Gabriel, the right hand of God, looking over the chaos and the destruction that mankind has brought on themselves and proclaiming the Apocalypse."

SO, YOU'RE ALL SET TO GO?

"Oh yeah! We don't have tour dates set in stone, but now the secret is out we can formulate our plans. I'm more fired-up than I've ever been in my life."



Hear the new track on
Kerrang.com



THEY SAID WHAT?

"GREAT TO MEET SHARON FROM WITHIN TEMPTATION!"

JACOBY SHADDIX, PAPA ROACH



SMASHING PUMPKINS

Smashing Pumpkins' original drummer, **Jimmy Chamberlin**, has rejoined the band ahead of their U.S. tour with **Marilyn Manson**. "We're thrilled Jimmy's back in the saddle," frontman **Billy Corgan** explains. "It's nice to see the stars aligning around Smashing Pumpkins anew!" Welcome back, Jimmy!

MASTODON'S BRENT HINDS: "I HATE METAL"

Mastodon's Brent Hinds has told Guitar Player, "I fucking hate heavy metal and I don't want to be in a heavy metal band!" He then revealed he started playing metal in his late 20s because he "thought it was rebellious". Psst... you're in Mastodon, Brent.

THEY SAID WHAT?



"THE WORLD NEEDS TO HEAR NEW POLITICS' TRACK, VIKINGS!"

PETE WENTZ, FALL OUT BOY

SLAVES (U.S.) GUITARIST STABBED

Slaves (U.S.) guitarist **Alex Lyman** (pictured below, far left) was left with a four-inch cut that was two-inches deep, just millimetres from his spleen after being stabbed in what police are describing as a hate crime.

"There was no confrontation and nothing was done to provoke this," the guitarist explains. "It was because I'm a 'faggot in skinny jeans'."

An officer from the Sacramento Police Dept said they were taking the attack "very seriously". Get well soon, Alex.



SLIPKNOT TO TAKE A BREAK

Corey Taylor has revealed that **Slipknot** will be taking a two-year break after their current touring commitments are over. The frontman told *Rocksource* they wanted to "let everything chill", adding, "I'm gonna go do my thing and everybody else's gonna go do their thing."

The singer cited **Clown's** venture into directing feature films as just one of the reasons they're hitting the pause button on the band, before concluding, "In a couple of years, we'll get back together and see what happens again." We're not sure we have the patience for this!

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS

NICKELBACK CANCEL TOUR

Nickelback have been forced to cancel the rest of their No Fixed Address U.S. Tour after frontman **Chad Kroeger** was diagnosed with "an operable cyst on his voice box". The singer said he was "sorry to have interrupted the party of the summer".

GENE SIMMONS: "I BLAME ROCK FANS"

Kiss bassist **Gene Simmons** claims that there are no rockstars any more and says that he blames the fans. The long-tongued one told *Planet Rock*, "[Fans are] killing the next **Elvis** and the next **Kiss** because you have to give your music away for free!" Riiight.

METAL CALMS YOU DOWN!

A study by the University Of Queensland has discovered that, despite the presumption that extreme music causes anger, music such as heavy metal, emo, hardcore, punk and screamo actually regulated sadness and enhanced positive emotions.

"Results showed levels of hostility, irritability and stress decreased after the music was introduced, and the most significant change reported was the level of inspiration they felt," the study explains. "It helped them explore the full gamut of emotion they felt, but also left them feeling more active!" But we already knew that, right?



NO DEVOTION REVEAL DEBUT ALBUM, PERMANENCE

No Devotion have unveiled their debut record will be called *Permanence* and is released on September 25 via Collect Records.

Frontman **Geoff Rickly** exclusively told *K!* that they chose the title because "we all needed something to call our own", adding, "The rest of the band [comprised of former members of *Lostprophets*] have lost a lot in the last few years and we wanted to build something sturdy. I don't know if you ever really move past something like that."

The band plan to air some of the new material at their upcoming appearance at Reading & Leeds. We'll be there!

THEY SAID WHAT?



"I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE NEW BMTH MUSIC!"

GUSTAV WOOD, YOUNG GUNS

K! GO INSIDE BILLIE JOE'S SECRET SHOW!

A FRONT-ROW SEAT AT THE **GREEN DAY** MAN'S INTIMATE NEW YORK SHOW...

Last week (June 24) saw **Green Day** frontman **Billie Joe Armstrong** deliver a tiny basement show to just 200 fans at the Bowery Electric in New York.

"My name is **Billie Joe**, this is my friend **Norah Jones** – together we are **Billie Joe** and... **Norah!**" laughed the frontman as he introduced his collaborator from the pair's 2013 *Everly Brothers* tribute album, *Foreverly*.

Tickets were limited to members of the band's *Idiot Nation* fan club, who (with backing from a double

bassist, a harmonica player and a violinist) were treated to a rare performance of all 12 tracks of *Foreverly*, as well as an encore of *Carl Perkins' Sure To Fall*.

Coupled with **Green Day's** return at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in April, this special show marks yet another 2015 venture into the spotlight for **BJA**. With longtime producer **Rob Cavallo** telling *K!* he'd "heard five new songs that **Billie** has written", we're hoping these outings are warming him up for recording that next **Green Day** album.



Billie Joe and Norah Jones

BJA's jetlag struck at a really bad moment...



Don Broco's priorities:
1. Shades, 2. Smiles,
3. Ice cream...?

K!ONFIDENTIAL
ROCK GOSSIP AND GIBBERISH



BROCO IN CHELSEA!

We thought running out of champers was the biggest problem faced by the immaculately manicured irritants of inexplicably popular reality TV show *Made In Chelsea*. And then Kerrang! Tour 2015 headliners Don Broco showed up in an episode to play at a made-up festival! "Everyone seemed very proper. I don't know if they quite knew what to expect when we hit the stage!" frontman Rob

Damiani told us. Weirdly, Kerrang! weren't invited to review *Made In Chelsea* Fest but, by gawping at our TVs, we spotted the Broco boys opening up a posh-pit of cheeky glampers to recent single *Automatic* and upcoming track *Superlove*.

The appearance will surely rank alongside Napalm Death's cameo on *Skins* as TV performances that people look back on and say: 'That happened.' Yeah... that happened.

BONES EXPOSED

We usually love getting under the skin of rockstars and seeing what they're made of, but this picture of a portion of rib removed from Of Mice & Men's Austin Carlile was a step too far for us. Fortunately, he's been discharged from hospital now and is resting up. Here's wishing you a swift recovery, Austin!



PHOTO: WENNY

SAD BUT TRUE!

Yes, that's **Justin Bieber** in New York. Yes, that's a **Metallica** T-shirt he's wearing. Yes, that's the sound of our brains exploding.

SPOTTED

That's right! That is a photo of **As It Is** frontman, **Patty Walters**, signing a real live dog down there! And they said pup-punk was dead. In other tenuously linked, vaguely animal-related news, **Marmozets** (not actually monkeys) played a show in Brighton – and were joined onstage by **Architects** frontman **Sam Carter** (not an actual architect) and **Royal Blood** drummer **Ben Thatcher** (not actual royalty).

Elsewhere, **Blitz Kids** guitarist **Jono Yates** stalked **The Mighty Boosh**'s **Noel Fielding** on the train from London to Crewe. Oh how the other half live, eh?

PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com



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ROCK CHART

KAPOW! **MUSE** HAVE RECLAIMED THE TOP SPOT FROM **FALL OUT BOY**. WILL THEY FIGHT BACK? OR CAN **MALLORY KNOX** OVERTAKE 'EM BOTH? FIND OUT NEXT WEEK!

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	2	1	MUSE	<i>Mercy</i>	WARNER RECORDS
2	8	1	FALL OUT BOY	<i>Uma Thurman</i>	ISLAND RECORDS
3	4	3	MALLORY KNOX	<i>Heart & Desire</i>	SONY
4	6	2	ROYAL BLOOD	<i>Little Monster</i>	IMPERIAL GALACTIC LTD
5	4	5	NECK DEEP	<i>Can't Kick Up The Roots</i>	HOPELESS RECORDS
6	5	6	DON BROCO	<i>Automatic</i>	SONY
7	5	2	ENTER SHIKARI	<i>Torn Apart</i>	ENTER SHIKARI
8	4	3	WE ARE THE OCEAN	<i>Holy Fire</i>	BING RIGHTS MANAGEMENT
9	5	9	YOUNG GUNS	<i>Daylight</i>	VIRGIN EMI
10	8	4	LOWER THAN ATLANTIS	<i>Words Don't Come So Easily</i>	SONY
11	16	4	PVRIS	<i>St. Patrick</i>	RISE RECORDS
12	5	12	SLAVES	<i>Cheer Up London</i>	VIRGIN EMI
13	6	5	SLEEPING WITH SIRENS	<i>The Strays</i>	EPTAPH
14	8	1	MUSE	<i>Dead Inside</i>	WARNER
15	3	15	RIVAL STATE	<i>Keepsake</i>	FOUR LEAF RECORDS
16	7	8	AS IT IS	<i>Cheap Shots & Setbacks</i>	FEARLESS RECORDS
17	9	7	BEARTOOTH	<i>In Between</i>	RED BULL RECORDS
18	11	1	ALL TIME LOW	<i>Kids In The Dark</i>	HOPELESS RECORDS
19	4	19	EOFE	<i>Wake Up</i>	CREAM RECORD CORP
20	2	20	FOREVER NEVER	<i>Never Giving Up</i>	FOREVER NEVER

ROU REYNOLDS, ENTER SHIKARI

WHAT'S THE LYRICAL INSPIRATION FOR THE SONG?

"It's about the uselessness of the concept of 'race' when it comes to genetics. We still live in a world where racism is rife. Science can go a long way in helping us rid ourselves of the false reasons for hatred and distrust."

CAN YOU TELL US A SECRET ABOUT *TORN APART*?

"The opening riff itself is one of the oldest Shikari

riffs there is. I made it during the same era as Sorry You're Not A Winner, but it only felt right to develop it now."

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE LYRIC ON THE SONG?

"'Defined by your skin forget we share kin, we're torn apart', really gets to the heart of the track. Our species evolved from the plains of Africa and populated the world from there. We all share common ancestors and we are all one family – but that is still too often overlooked."



LUKE VAN HOOFF, RIVAL STATE

ARE YOU PLEASED THE TRACK IS DOING WELL?

"I'm glad that my subliminal messaging is reaching the masses! I'm very proud that people relate to my lyrics."

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE LYRIC ON *KEEPSAKE*?

"'I watch religion start a war, and I don't

know why'. If [insert your god here] is really watching us, he or she would be ashamed."

DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE MEMORY FROM THE STUDIO?

"Probably screaming at myself in a mirror, which was pretty weird."



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The Official Kerrang! Rock Chart is made up of airplay across Kerrang! Radio, Kerrang! TV and specialist rock stations. The show airs on K! Radio every Saturday at 12:30pm with Dan Hudson, and also on K! TV Thursdays at 4pm. Tune in and listen up!

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L - R: Adrian Lee (guitar), Brian Kaczmarczyk (bass), Brendan Murphy (vocals), Kelly Bilan (drums) and Jesse Doreen (guitar)

FRESH BLOOD
ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS

COUNTERPARTS

CANADIAN HARDCORE MOB UNLEASH THEIR EMOTIONAL DEMONS ONTO THE WORLD...

HEY, KERRANGI, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT FOR ME TODAY? I'M FEELING A BIT DOWN IN THE DUMPS...

Well, fortunately, we've got just the band for you. See those guys tearing it up onstage up there? That's Ontario's misery-core quintet Counterparts, and they're turning personal anguish into an art form. "What I've learnt recently is that the majority of humans will only let you down," says frontman Brendan Murphy, with the veneer of a starving pit bull terrier. "I'm just lucky that I have this band as an outlet to get all that disappointment and anger at people out in a healthy, productive way."

WELL HE SOUNDS LIKE A CHIRPY CHAP! WHAT HAS CAUSED THIS LEVEL OF SAD-SACKERY, THEN?

"I had a lot of bad personal stuff go on just before we recorded our new album, 'Tragedy Will Find Us,'" explains Brendan — a taster of which, Burn, you can check out on Kerrang.com right now. "A relationship of mine failed just before we went into

the studio. I felt totally emotionally numb and couldn't even bring myself to write lyrics. It all came pouring out when we got into the studio, though. I wrote lyrics for nine songs whilst we were recording, which is unheard of for me. There's a lot of feelings here."

"HUMANS WILL ONLY LET YOU DOWN!"

CRUIKEY! ARE THEY PUTTING ANGST TABLETS IN THE WATER IN CANADA THESE DAYS?

Well, not quite, although being from the land of the maple leaf has certainly had its impact on the band. "We come from a place where not a lot of people play and it feels like fewer people come out to shows," sighs Brendan. "It's given us

this work ethic where we go out and find stuff for ourselves. Once you've dug your van out of four foot of snow you start to realise the only way you get anywhere is through putting the effort in yourself!" It's worth saying at this point that the idea of Brendan armed with a snow shovel terrifies us.

), WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE, THEN? THEY CAN'T BE FEELING MISERABLE ABOUT THAT, TOO, SURELY?

Far from it! In fact, ask Brendan about that lies ahead of Counterparts and his eyes light up like the Vegas strip. "When we came to the UK with Architects recently, it was the most unbelievable experience. This is very emotional, often aggressive music, but it has actually given me some of the best times of my life." If that doesn't make you feel better, then lord knows what will!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

FOR FANS OF:

Architects, Stick To Your Guns, Hundredth.

HEAR: Embittered headbanger Collapse.

MORE INFO: Facebook.com/counterpartsband

CHECK OUT: Their frenzied live video for Burn.

DON'T MISS: Counterparts and more killer new bands on Alex Baker's Fresh Blood show on Wednesdays at 10pm on Kerrang! Radio.

To hear them, get yourself over to **Kerrang.com**





A close-up photograph of a light-colored dog, possibly a Weimaraner, sitting on green grass. The dog is looking directly at the camera with its mouth open and tongue hanging out, appearing happy. It is wearing a red, textured harness. A circular tag with a yellow triangle and the word "Pilot" is attached to the harness. The dog's ears are floppy and light-colored. The background is a soft-focus green lawn.

ISSUE 1575 JUL 4, 2015

WINNER!

THE MATT IN THE HAT

Here's @Fentoon with Trivium's Matt Heafy, looking

WINNER!

A tattoo on a person's arm featuring a central skull with large, dark, bat-like wings extending from the sides. Below the skull, two long, thin bones are crossed in an 'X' shape. The entire design is rendered in a dark ink with some shading.

A photograph of four wooden buttons arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each button is dark brown with a circular white patch in the center. The patch contains the letters 'BB' in a stylized, black, hand-drawn font. The buttons are set against a plain white background.

NEXT WEEK
WIN!
TICKETS TO «READING LEEDS» 2015

KERRANG! 15



Steve's reaction to a chubby spider on his bass amp was priceless



THIS SEPTEMBER ISN'T JUST SET TO MARK THE RELEASE OF 'ANOTHER' **IRON MAIDEN** ALBUM – IT'S SET TO MARK THE RELEASE OF THE METAL LEGENDS' MOST AMBITIOUS AND, PERHAPS, THEIR MOST IMPORTANT ALBUM EVER. IN A WORLD-EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW, **STEVE HARRIS** TAKES US DEEP INSIDE **THE BOOK OF SOULS...**

WORDS: GEORGE GARNER PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES, JOHN MCNURTRE, ASHLEY MAILE, ANDREW TIMMS

Some phone calls are more important than others. This is one of them. As promised, Kerrang!'s phone ring-rings at 10:15am on the dot. Upon answering, the friendly sound of, "Alright, how are ya?" comes from the other end of the line. Down-to-earth, soft-spoken and so distinctly East London you can practically hear an E11 postcode, the voice is unmistakable.

Given that all things Iron Maiden – whether personal or professional – tend to be cocooned in secrecy, Steve Harris' is a voice people always want to hear from. Now in particular, however, fans are foaming at the mouth to know what he has to say. Less than a fortnight ago, Iron Maiden announced a new album. Which, as you may recall, many people speculated would never materialise.

In 2010, Iron Maiden released their 15th album, *The Final Frontier*, thus hitting the grand tally Steve once prophesised would mark their ultimate goal as

a band. It was a release that some fans feared would actually double up as *The Final Hurrh*.

Only that was all a load of old bollocks, really, wasn't it?

"People take things so literally!" laughs Steve. "I said in an interview, wherever it was in 1933, that we'd do 15 albums. And because we've done 15 albums now, it's like, 'Well, is that it, then?' It's like, 'No!' That was a silly thing, I thought it was a good benchmark to try to reach, and if we can go beyond that, great."

Welcome, then, to the great beyond: a whole new, uncharted frontier for Iron Maiden to explore.

Here are the essentials the world knows so far: Iron Maiden's 16th album is called *The Book Of Souls*. The result of a more collaborative song-writing process, it spans 11 tracks and is comprised of 92 minutes of music, making it the longest album of their 40-year career. It's also their first-ever double album, undoubtedly because it contains three songs that each break the 10-minute mark, the longest of which clocks in at a staggering 18 minutes and one second. The fact that this album's also being released following singer Bruce Dickinson's recovery from a small cancerous tumour at the back of his tongue only adds to the innumerable talking points.

Fortunately, just before going on a well-earned holiday, Steve's agreed to answer some questions exclusively for *Kerrang!* Calling from his hotel room, Steve's put the 'Do Not Disturb' sign on the door for good reason: he's finally about to shed some light on life in the Maiden camp in 2015.

"It's a lot better than it was two or three months ago, that's for sure," says Steve. "Obviously, now Bruce is alright and everything, we want to start looking forward to doing stuff next year. I suppose a few months ago everything was kind of precarious – the whole situation was terrible, obviously. Now it's onwards and upwards."

And in order for us to turn onto a new page in Iron Maiden history, we must first leaf through *The Book Of Souls*...

Our story starts in Paris. In late summer 2014, Iron Maiden – that's Steve, Bruce, guitarists Adrian Smith, Dave Murray and Janick Gers, drummer Nicko McBrain and, presumably, Eddie – descended upon Guillaume Tell Studios. Located some 20 minutes away from the Champs-Élysées, this regal studio was where Maiden previously recorded their 2000 neo-classic *Brave New World*. With producer Kevin Shirley in tow – the man who's overseen every Maiden studio album for the past 15 years – they emerged with the longest record of their career. So long, in fact, that, for the first time in Maiden's history, it didn't even fit on to one disc.

"We all agreed," said Bruce Dickinson in Maiden's official unveiling of *The Book Of Souls*, "[that] each track was such an integral part of the whole body of work that if it needed to be a double album, then

double it's going to be!"

This decision makes more sense when you realise the probing subject matter of some of the songs. And to get a firm grasp on that, you need only look – as is so often the case with Maiden – at their artwork. If you've spent the past fortnight wondering why an album called *The Book Of Souls* features a Mesoamerican tribal-looking Eddie on the cover, it's for a very good reason.

"Well, it's based on the Mayans," reveals Steve, referring to the album's title-track. "They believed that the souls live on. They believed in lots of other out-of-world experiences within their living world at the time. There are lots of mystical things going on with the way they lived their lives and believed in different Gods for this, that and the other. It's very fascinating."

Why, specifically, does the idea of what lurks beyond the threshold of our own experience intrigue you?

"It always has done, really," observes Steve. "I suppose as you get older you think about things like that a lot more. Things like this happen with Bruce or whatever, and people pass away around you – as we're getting older it happens more and more. I've always kind of touched on mortality and stuff like that anyway in my lyrics, even when I was in my 20s. There's always been a fascination with what's out there, really, and whether people continue to live afterwards."

Indeed, in another time and space, Iron Mayan could have been the perfect band name, given their shared preoccupation with the soul. People may think of Maiden songs as dealing primarily with war, history, politics, mythology and one very particular case of Benjamin Breeg, but the soul's always been threaded through their thematic backdrops. In fact, it's been a staple in some of their very finest



moments – the soul was ready to 'fly away' on *Hallowed Be Thy Name*, it burned 'in a lake of fire' on *Can I Play With Madness*, and it required no prayers on *2 Minutes To Midnight*. Spend a bit of time leafing through the vast archive of their lyrics and you'll actually discover that Iron Maiden have never recorded an album that does not contain at least one explicit reference to the soul.

Interestingly, when it comes to this particular word's presence on *The Book Of Souls*, Steve notes it's not a premeditated thing.

"It's not a concept album, but there are other mentions," he confirms. "It's weird, because when we did the [1992] *Fear Of The Dark* album, we all got writing off in pairs or individually, and 'fear' was mentioned a few times without anyone being conscious that this had happened. A similar thing happened with this; there are three or four songs where it's mentioned. It is weird... almost like



Iron Maiden (L-R): Adrian Smith, Nicko McBrain, Bruce Dickinson, Steve Harris, Janick Gers and Dave Murray

THE X-Z OF MAIDEN

LET HIM (OR HER) WHO HATH UNDERSTANDING
RECOGNISE THE ALPHABET OF THE BEAST...

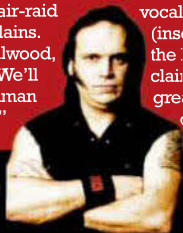
X AIR RAID SIREN

Bruce Dickinson's nickname, which came from a fan complaint when Bruce became Maiden's vocalist in 1981. "One of them wrote a letter of complaint saying, 'It

was like hearing all my favourite songs being played [through] a cement mixer with an air-raid siren,'" he explains. "So, Rod [Smallwood, see 'R'] went, 'We'll call him the human air-raid siren!'"

B BLAZE BAYLEY

When Bruce left in 1993, Wolfsbane vocalist Blaze Bayley (inset) stepped into the breach. Few would claim it was Maiden's greatest era, but it did result in some



crackers (hello there, *Sign Of The Cross* and *The Clansman*).

C CLIVE BURR

The drummer on Maiden's first three albums passed away from complications resulting of MS in 2013. Steve Harris paid tribute saying, "He was a wonderful person and an amazing drummer."



D DAVE MURRAY

Alongside band founder and bassist Steve Harris, Dave (left) is the only member to have appeared on every Maiden release. An integral part of the Irons' sound and success.

E EDDIE

He's been a time-travelling cyborg, an Egyptian pharaoh, a weird

tree monster and an alien, having started life as a papier-mâché stage prop that squirted blood via a fish tank pump. Eddie the Head remains metal's most iconic mascot.

F FLIGHT 666

A 2009 documentary that captured the sheer scale of Maiden on the road. It took its name from the customised Boeing 757 called Ed Force One, which was

"THE SOUL HAS ALWAYS FASCINATED ME"

STEVE HARRIS

UP THE IRONS!

WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES STOKED ABOUT THE RETURN OF MAIDEN...



"Dude, Maiden are badass! I respect the fuck out of what they do. I respect the fact that they're still fucking here slaying it, I respect the fact that Bruce Dickinson is a fucking amazing singer, and all those guys are amazing players. It's so good that they're making a new fucking record! I don't listen to a lot of metal, but I will listen to anything that's good."

Jonathan Davis, KORN



"Without Iron Maiden, nothing musically worth a damn in metal, punk, rock or hardcore would exist. Iron Maiden set the blueprint for what real music should sound and look like. Iron Maiden does exactly what Iron Maiden wants to do at all times. Iron Maiden will never try to change their sound to fit a demographic or write something disingenuous to appease some trend or fad. Iron Maiden is, without question, one of the most important bands of our time, and their new album will carry on their legacy with honour."

Matt Heafy, TRIVIUM



"A new Iron Maiden album is always cause for celebration... but a double album? With an 18-minute song written by Bruce Dickinson? With the best album cover since Seventh Son Of A Seventh Son? Heaven Can Wait 'til another day indeed... and that day is September 4! Forget the Bible, the most important thing to read this fall is The Book Of Souls!"

Chris Jericho, FOZZY

Steve Harris in the Parisian Guillaume Tell Studios

piloted by Bruce Dickinson and used the call sign '666'.



GRAMMY They might have been snubbed in the 2012 London Olympics ceremonies but, as one of the biggest British acts

of all time, Maiden have been acknowledged by the mainstream elsewhere, winning a Grammy in 2011, and a Brit Award in 2009.

HARRIS, STEVE As the founding member, bassist, primary songwriter and head honcho, Steve Harris is Iron Maiden. Those galloping bass runs and that foot-on-the-monitor machine gun sweep are cornerstones of every

show, and he's steered the Maiden ship to massive success. Not bad for a former street sweeper from Leytonstone.

IRON MAIDEN Maiden's eponymous 1980 debut paved the way for the New Wave Of British Heavy Metal, thrash and every other metal evolution to come.



JANICK GERS Having worked on Bruce's solo album, Janick (below) joined Maiden when guitarist Adrian Smith departed in 1990. Retained as part of a new three-guitar frontline when Adrian returned in 1999.

KILLERS The band's second album, released in 1981, cemented their place at the forefront



of the NWOBHM. It was their last with vocalist Paul Di'Anno but their first with producer Martin Birch, with whom the band would work until his retirement after 1992's Fear Of The Dark.

LIVE AFTER DEATH Live albums rarely become as legendary as their studio counterparts, but 1985's Live After Death, captured Maiden at the

peak of their powers and is an essential listen.

McBRAIN, NICKO Maiden's engine since joining in 1982. Steve Harris said of his sticksman, "Drummers from other bands sit 'round the back of him to see what he's doing, but he's got his kit set so he doesn't even look at what he's hitting half the time. He just puts his head down and plays."



there's a telepathy going on."

Then again, it's oddly fitting that Iron Maiden are asking some of the biggest existential questions of their lives right now...

In the history of, well, music, there's perhaps never been so determined and unbending a leader as Steve Harris. He is a man who's possessed with a Spartan sensibility and yet an oft-overlooked introspective side that quietly fuels his passion for all things Maiden. "I've always been quite a sensitive person," reveals Steve, "even as a kid, to be honest, maybe too sensitive for my own good sometimes." Yet this particular blend of characteristics has helped him steer Iron Maiden from playing the Ruskin Arms boozer in East Ham to one whose singer now pilots them in their own private jet. Not only has Steve guided Maiden through changing line-ups and the various fads of the mainstream, he's done so while always satisfying a fanbase of zealous disposition with a new album more or less every three years (The Final Frontier and The Book Of Souls being the only two exceptions).

But Christmas 2014 presented Maiden with a challenge that, for once, was out of Steve's hands. It was then, during a routine check-up, that Bruce Dickinson discovered a small cancerous tumour at the back of his tongue. He would require a seven-week course of chemotherapy and radiology treatment. Thankfully, following his recent MRI scan, Bruce was officially given the all-clear by his specialists in May. That great news aside, we've largely been left in the dark as to how the band actually coped during this time.

So, how did Bruce's diagnosis actually affect the recording?

"Well, it didn't at all, because Bruce didn't know and none of us knew anything about..." Steve pauses momentarily. "There was no inkling of any of it. He'd finished all his vocal bits completely anyway, and then there were some other bits and pieces we were doing. Really, we didn't know anything – he didn't show any signs at all. I mean, his singing, when you hear it... He's singing better than ever."

So, it didn't affect the recording of The Book Of Souls in any way?

"It didn't cause any problems in that department at all," confirms Steve. "He wasn't showing any signs of being ill. I didn't even know until a few weeks afterwards, when he got his results back. It was such a shock to him and everybody else because it just wasn't expected at all."

And how did everyone in the Maiden camp cope with his diagnosis?

"It's such a personal matter for Bruce and the band that I don't think now is the time to talk about it," says Steve. "It's Bruce's story to tell when he feels the time is right."

The one thing I can say is that Bruce is a trooper and more than ready for the next chapter of Iron Maiden. What matters now is that we've got an album coming out that I think our fans are going to love and we're all excited to share with them."

And what Maiden are sharing with The Book Of Souls is an album that has Bruce's fingerprints on it.

"Once in a while he'll come in with one song that is totally his own thing, but this album has two," enthuses Steve. "They're both great songs. One of them is very much a departure."

An 18-minute "departure", to be precise...

During one key moment of the recording of The Book Of Souls, Steve just had to get something off his chest to Bruce Dickinson. "You've outdone me, you bugger!" he said to Maiden's vocalist.

You see, there's a particular subspecies of Iron Maiden song – technically you could call it The Epic, though it seems a somewhat imprecise way of summarising the sweeping ambition of the Maiden songs that sashay past the 10-minute mark. In this department, there's always been one Maiden song to rule them all. In 1984, Steve Harris compressed Samuel Taylor Coleridge's The Rime Of The Ancient Mariner poem into 13 minutes and 38 seconds of metallic glory and aquatic sadness. Despite stiff competition from 1995's Sign Of The Cross (11 minutes and 16 seconds), for 31 years, Steve's record has stood.

That is until, well, some bugger went and beat him.

While the rest of the band were labouring away together on material in Guillaume Tell Studios, Bruce Dickinson was often seen just out of view, orbiting a grand piano. He couldn't leave the thing alone. So much so, in fact, that Steve quips, "We kind of had to shut him off and close the room off because he was kind of going off on one with it."

Joking aside, however, Steve could tell something big was happening.

Eventually, Bruce played Steve what he'd been working on and said, "What can you do with this?"

"Well, at the moment I don't want to do anything because you're having such a good time with it," he replied. "The melodies are so strong, just keep taking it where you want to go with it."

Once Bruce had done just that, Iron Maiden got together to record it and eventually birthed an 18-minute monster of a song called Empire Of The Clouds, which closes The Book Of Souls. It's the longest Iron Maiden song ever recorded.

Steve is far from bitter about losing The Crown Of Long Songs, though. Not only does he praise



NUMBER OF THE BEAST, THE

The band's breakthrough 1982 album, establishing them as global megastars, and it's a classic to boot. The title-track also remains one of their most iconic moments, from the horror movie intro (the band had to turn to a Vincent Price soundalike when the real thing proved too expensive) to that horns-in-the-air 'Six-six-six...' refrain.

OLD NICK

Just as The Number Of The Beast was winning them fans worldwide, it was also offending the moral majority, especially in the U.S., where Maiden were branded Satanists and their gigs were picketed. "They completely got the wrong end of the stick," recalled Steve Harris.



PAUL DI'ANNO

As the voice behind their first two albums, Paul Di'Anno (left) was a big part of Maiden's early success, but substance abuse led to his replacing with Bruce Dickinson.

QUIZ

At the start of 2014, punk troubadour Frank Turner won

Celebrity Mastermind. His specialist subject? Iron Maiden! The experience was "way better" than playing the Olympics opening ceremony, he said.

ROD SMALLWOOD

Maiden's legendary manager (below) was immortalised on Sheriff Of Huddersfield, a B-side on the Wasted



Years single. 'For Yorkshire he's yearning but because he's earning he'll always live in LA', they declared.

SMITH, ADRIAN

The guitarist joined Maiden for second album Killers, replacing Dennis Stratton. His partnership with Dave Murray produced that unmistakable twin lead sound, and he was an integral part of Maiden's first flight of success.

TROOPER

"A Premium British beer inspired by Iron Maiden and handcrafted at Robinsons brewery", so the sales pitch goes. It's named after The Trooper, an anthem inspired by the Charge of the Light Brigade and one of Maiden's most iconic songs. It's delicious, too.

UNION FLAG

Speaking of The Trooper, that's the



"BRUCE'S 18-MINUTE SONG IS A MASTERPIECE"

STEVE HARRIS

Bruce's "powerful" lyrics, he has something even bolder to say.

"I think it's a masterpiece, actually – I think I can say that because I didn't write it!" he laughs. Keep in mind that, for 40 years, Steve's been a master of humble understatement; self-congratulation is a foreign language to him. His pronounced excitement for the track, then, is quite revealing.

"It sounds like Maiden but it's totally different from what we've done before," he beams. "Eighteen minutes sounds like a long time, but it's actually such a journey that... Well, it's best just to leave people to listen to it and see what they think. But it's very interesting. It's certainly not boring, let's put it that way! And there are still other long songs also."

Clearly, after two albums of dense, prog-tastic, winding songs, Maiden's grand ambitions aren't about to evaporate. But this has big implications for Maiden fans. The question looms: are fans prepared for a Maiden record as vast as *The Book Of Souls*?

Here's another interesting fact about *The Book Of Souls*: if you put its three longest songs together – the title track, *Empire Of The Clouds* and the Harris-penned *The Red And The Black* – you have 42 minutes and one second of music. That's longer than their entire classic record *The Number Of The Beast*. So big and complex is *The Book Of Souls* that Steve, perhaps understandably, is a bit reluctant to dissect every single note and lyric too far in advance. "It's best not to say too much," he says, before adding that there will be a lot more to talk about "when the time is right, and then Bruce can talk about his situation a lot more".

What Steve will reveal now, however, is that he harbours no illusions about what this record will require from fans.

"I think you'll see on this album that there's lots going on," he beams. "There's a hell of a lot to take in. I think there'll be bits and pieces that will hit people initially, but I think they're going to need a few listens. It's a long album; I think it's a really interesting album. Hopefully other people will think it's interesting as well."

Still, fans will have plenty of time to wrap their heads around songs like *If Eternity Should Fail*, *When The River Runs Deep* and *Death Or Glory* because, notably, *Iron Maiden* won't be playing any gigs in 2015 while Bruce recuperates. Fans will, however, get a chance to see Steve playing with his side-project, *British Lion*, who released their killer self-titled debut in 2012.

But why now?

"Obviously, with what's happened with Bruce this year, there's nothing happening with Maiden and I just want to go out and do something to keep the rust out," he says. "It's probably

a selfish thing, but I did run it past him because it's sensitive with what he's been through. I spoke to Bruce first before I spoke to any of *British Lion*. I asked, 'Do you feel comfortable with me doing this? If you're not, I won't do it.' He said, 'No problem at all, go and do it,' so I thought, 'Alright, I will, then!' It's only a few weeks, but the first time we played, in 2013, we only did four shows in the UK, and we only did three last year."

As for the question of what's next for Iron Maiden? Well, that's altogether bigger. After all, what next for a band whose last album topped the charts in 28 countries? How do you top your last world tour when you played to well over two million people? What do you when you've now sold well over 90 million albums, five million pints of your own branded beer and played more than 2,000 gigs



in a career that's lasted 40 years?

For Steve, the future is simple. He's going to stick to the plan he's had since he formed Iron Maiden on Christmas day in 1975. He's going to carry on. He's going to enjoy every fucking second of it.

"Whenever we do a new album we always go out with a new stage show; that's exciting in itself," says Steve, before continuing, "we always feel like every show is sacred these days anyway, and I suppose even more so now after the scare with what's happened with Bruce. It makes everything more important to us. *The Book Of Souls* is a really powerful album, we're really proud of it and we can't wait to come out and play new songs on the tour. We're really looking forward to it."

Consider yourself warned, then: Iron Maiden's gonna get ya. And this time they don't just want all of you, they want your soul, too.

THE BOOK OF SOULS WILL BE RELEASED ON SEPTEMBER 4 VIA PARLOPHONE. BRITISH LION TOUR THE UK IN JULY AND AUGUST – SEE GIG GUIDE FOR INFO

Tune into **Kerrang! Radio** all week as Maiden go under the Spotlight, and head to **Kerrang.com** for all the latest news

moment where, when performed live, you'll see Bruce dressed as a 19th Century dragoon, waving a frankly arrogantly big Union Flag.

VIDEO GAMES Maiden tracks crop up in a number of games, including *GTA: Vice City* and *SSX On Tour*, while Tony Hawk's *Pro Skater 4* featured Eddie as an unlockable character.

Eddie also got his own game in 1999 shooter *Ed Hunter* (below).

WARPLANES From *Aces High* and *Tailgunner* to *Spitfire fly-bys* at *Download* and simulated WWI dogfights at *Sonisphere*, Maiden and flyboy Bruce in particular have a

slight obsession with bygone fighter pilots.

XX FACTOR, THE Way before the shitty reality show came Maiden's 10th studio album and their first with Blaze Bayley. As well as the obvious upheaval in personnel, it also represented a musical departure, being



far darker and more depressive in tone. It might not be many fans' favourite, but it was the album they had to make at the time.

YUGOSLAVIA Maiden have broken a lot of records and taken metal to many new frontiers. In the mid-'80s they

were one of the first Western rock bands to play behind the Iron Curtain – the ideological and sometimes physical boundary between the Soviet-controlled Eastern Bloc and the West. The tour took them to Yugoslavia, Poland and Hungary, and was documented on the *Behind The Iron Curtain* video.

ZEPPELIN Tenuous? Well, at the cancer charity event *Sunflower Jam* 2012, Bruce Dickinson got to play with one of his idols, Led Zeppelin bassist John Paul Jones. Not to mention Queen guitarist Brian May and Deep Purple drummer Ian Paice. Now that's an all-star jam.



This is what happens when you eat the last Nutella & Go! stick in front of All Time Low

ALL IN GOOD TIME

A NUMBER ONE ALBUM! ARENA TOURS! YEP, **ALL TIME LOW'S** YEAR HAS BEEN ONE BIG BLUR OF SUCCESS SO FAR. THAT'S WHY WE ASKED THEM TO SLOW DOWN AND TAKE IT ALL IN...

WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES



A lot can happen in a year, or so they say. But it would seem that All Time Low work a little quicker than most; after all, it's only taken six short months for their entire world to be spun well and truly on its head.

2015 has, by any measure, been a landmark moment for the band, one that's already seen them not just stepping foot in, but also selling out the biggest arena venues they have ever played in the UK. Add to that the two Relentless Kerrang! Awards – including the prestigious Best International Band gong – the quartet scooped a mere couple of weeks ago and a UK Number One album, and you've got a recipe for one of rock's biggest bands growing to almost unfathomable proportions.

But what does all this mean for the four Baltimore lads who started All Time Low as little more than a high-school hobby? A decade after their debut album was released to an unsuspecting world, how has the madness of a hyper-accelerated last half-year shaped and changed them?

And how far, in their eyes, could ATL end up going if things continue at this lightning pace?

“I managed to pin down the ever-rushing frontman, Alex Gaskarth, and guitarist Jack Barakat in, of all places, Oslo, Norway, to find out just what it's like to be in the eye of the storm...”

HOW CONSCIOUS ARE YOU AT THIS MOMENT OF HOW CRAZY THINGS ARE FOR ALL TIME LOW RIGHT NOW?

ALEX GASKARTH: “Man, it's hard to put in perspective when you're sort of in it, y'know. It's definitely registering that it's one of the best years we've ever had, and it's been a hell of a ride, and we're only in June! That being said, I think when it's nonstop like this it can be hard to let everything sink in. Everything feels like a bit of a blur to us right now; we're always onto the next thing!”

JACK BARAKAT: “To be honest, like Alex says, it can be really hard to get a grip on things. There have been lots of stressful moments, going from one tour straight into another and doing lots of promo for the album. I feel like things are maybe starting to slow down just a little and we're finally getting some time to breathe, which is good!”

HAVE THERE BEEN SPECIFIC MOMENTS RECENTLY WHERE YOU'VE SAT BACK AND GONE, ‘THINGS ARE REALLY KICKING OFF FOR US’?

JACK: “The entire UK tour was pretty eye-opening for me, being in huge venues every single night and them being sold out. It was weird, man! The Kerrang! Awards was interesting, too, coming and winning two awards, which is something we've never done before and that I definitely wasn't expecting. There have been a few times when I felt like I've been having an out-of-body experience!”

ALEX: “For me, there have been lots of moments like the ones Jack mentioned, but also simpler, smaller things, like going and doing press with sports channels in America, which is somewhere

we never thought we'd be. Things in the press make you realise that the scope of the band is getting broader than ever before, and that is really cool – the scope of the music is widening, and I think that's what any artist hopes for. And I don't think we've gone so far off the path that we originally set out on to do that stuff. Obviously it's evolved and grown, but it's amazing that things are growing and we're still getting to do what we love without having to bend to get it to happen.”

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOUR CELEBRITY IS EMERGING OUT OF THE WORLD OF ROCK MUSIC AND INTO THE MAINSTREAM?

ALEX: “It's a difficult thing to answer because it's hard to observe inwardly and you don't ever feel too different within yourself. That being said, it's one of those things that we're rolling with as, and when, it happens. It wasn't something we ever set out to do. We never started this band going, ‘Let's be famous’ – the music has always been the constant and prime focus. It can be very intimidating, I can't lie; it's a big responsibility as much as anything else. Both to our fans and to each other.”

JACK: “One thing that we've always said is that we can't forget where we came from and what got us here today. So, while things like mainstream

“IT'S ONE OF THE BEST YEARS WE'VE EVER HAD!”

ALEX GASKARTH

TV are cool, it's really, really important to us to still do things like Kerrang! because that's where the core of our fanbase really is. We still feel most comfortable in those places and, to be honest, we just really like doing it!”

SPEAKING OF EACH OTHER, HAS THE DYNAMIC CHANGED WITHIN THE GROUP AT ALL AS THINGS HAVE STEPPED UP?

JACK: “I think we've all gotten even tighter together. Everyone still has their same positions and jobs, but we now maybe do a little more to make sure that people are okay and coping alright. It's the kind of stuff you just do as friends, though – there's been no conscious decision to act differently.”

ALEX: “We have had to become our own support team, basically. At the same time as that, though, we all deal with things in differing ways. I mean, anyone who is wired to be the frontman of a band is probably a little more receptive to flashing lights in their faces, y'know (laughs). To say otherwise would be a bit of a lie. I don't think there's many people who step up to the front of a stage in an arena and don't revel in the whole thing. Different things matter to each of us slightly differently, but the great thing is that we all know where each of us stands individually. So, if Zack [Merrick, bass] doesn't want to be the guy who does the interviews, then we're not going to be forcing him to do that!”

WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT MATTER MOST TO YOU, THEN, ALEX?

ALEX: “My priorities have started to change a bit, I'd say. We've seen the potential that this band has, and it's not just a garage band turned real any more. This is our career and our livelihoods – this is the life we've made for ourselves. That's a much different concept when you're 27 compared to being 17, say. Back then I was just in it for the ride,

That Alex... always shopping at La Senza on tour



but now it's more like, 'I'm the captain of this ship and how do I keep this thing afloat?' The angle at which you come to it changes."

DO YOU EVER WORRY ABOUT GETTING A BIT BUSINESSLIKE WITH IT ALL?

ALEX: "The beauty of what we do is that the youthful energy you need to stop that happening comes through in the shows and the music. There's time for both things and it's where you choose to be a businessman and where you choose to be just a person enjoying the moment. If we take a fully businesslike approach with the stage show or the music, then we lose something of what makes ATL great, but with that in mind, we're a lot more familiar now with what we want the band to be, and right now we're putting that best foot forward. I guess that is a business move because we are much more aware of how to market ourselves these days."

JACK: "A very positive thing for us is that we've kept the same team for virtually the entire time we've been a band. A lot of our crew went to high school with us, our booking agents in the U.S. and UK have been there for nine years, so things are quite organic and pretty small and close-knit. I think that keeps everyone very level-headed

and I think fans recognise that kind of stuff, too."

IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS SINCE THE PARTY SCENE CAME OUT, AND YOU'VE EFFECTIVELY GROWN UP IN THE PUBLIC EYE. HAVE YOUR RECENT SUCCESSSES MADE YOU FEEL MORE LIKE AN 'ADULT'?

JACK: "It's pretty funny thinking back to when we were trying to convince the people at Warped Tour that they should take a shot on our band! Memories like that really put you in your place and

"A FEW YEARS BACK I FELT WE HIT A CEILING..."
JACK BARAKAT

keep you grounded, especially now that everything is documented on the internet. Like, so much of me growing up is on the internet! Do I feel more like an adult now? Maybe a little, but hopefully not too much!"

ALEX: "Music is a very weird world to be in,

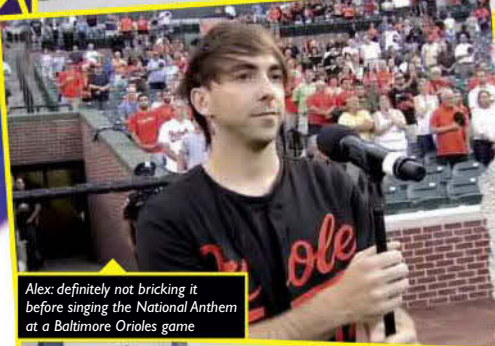
because you do grow up quickly in a lot of ways, having to fend for yourself on tour and that kind of stuff. But equally, all those general formalities that people experience in their late teens and early 20s when they really 'grow up', I never had any of those! It's this quite backwards dynamic where we've seen some shit and experienced the world in ways that lots of people never do, but also when it comes to not putting my feet on a table in public and not swearing in front of kids, that's all lost on me! It's a strange limbo to be in; we grew up early but in a different way to most."

YOU DID GET ENGAGED RECENTLY, THOUGH, ALEX. THAT MUST MAKE YOU FEEL PRETTY GROWN UP, RIGHT?

ALEX: "Another part of this crazy year, huh! I'm very lucky that the girl I'm engaged to has been in my life for a very long time and we understand each other and she understands *it*. We've grown together and it feels good to take that step. These things kind of fall into place, is the only way I can describe it. You know when you know and those cards have kind of lined up for us in that sense. That being said, I'm still gone 200-plus days of the year and we have had to build our relationship around those things."



Not hard to spot the winners of the 'Two Best ATL Members' K! Award



Alex definitely not bricking it before singing the National Anthem at a Baltimore Orioles game



You Me, All Time: shot before the Jaffa Cake dispute that would eventually create You Me At Six and All Time Low

IT MUST BE GREAT BE IN ALL TIME LOW RIGHT NOW...

JACK: "I must admit that there was a time a few years back where I felt like we had hit a ceiling – a ceiling we could be comfortable at for quite a while – but I didn't really think we could go too much further. I've been blown away by what has happened to us lately, I don't think anyone saw it coming."

ALEX: "At one point it seemed like we were having to demonstrate that we were 'punk enough' or prove to the major labels that the songs were there to take us to the next level. Now we have this thing that's working and we know how to do it. From here on it's about providing for our fanbase in a way that we can all grow together, and keep people coming back. It's awesome, 'cause it feels like we're in a much bigger place now and, like, there's much more room to grow from here. We've beaten ourselves into the ground over and over again doing this, but even at our lowest points we'd never consider stopping. It's that drive that has led us to this point where we're accomplishing things that I, for one, never even dreamed of."

ALL TIME LOW PLAY READING & LEEDS THIS SUMMER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

A DECADE UNDER THE QUIZ-FLUENCE

AFTER 10 YEARS IN THE GAME, WE FIND OUT HOW MUCH ALEX KNOWS ABOUT ALL TIME LOW'S HISTORY...



1 HOW MANY CD COPIES OF THE PARTY SCENE WERE PRINTED?

"I want to say 2,000. We did a pressing of 1,000 and sold them all and then did a second pressing of another thousand, but almost all of those are sitting in my basement still! So, it turns out I own nearly half the existing copies of that record!" ✓

2 WHEN WAS YOUR FIRST UK SHOW AND WHO WERE YOU SUPPORTING?

"Ohhh... Was it with Plain White T's in 2007? It was! Amazing. We were in a sprinter van and played some pretty tiny venues. It was a weird time 'cause it was just as Plain White T's had done... Delilah, so, really, the only people at the shows were people who were just intrigued!" ✓



We swear we remember these guys... T-shirt Boyz?

3 IN 2008 YOU MADE YOUR LIVE TV DEBUT ON JIMMY KIMMEL IN AMERICA. WHAT SONGS DID YOU PLAY?

"Dear Maria, Count Me In, then I think we also did... Jassey Rae? The main thing I remember about that was physically shaking before we went on and then playing Maria really fucking fast because we were so nervous. I was, like, 19 when we did that, that's crazy, huh?" ✓

4 WHAT NUMBER DID NOTHING PERSONAL CHART AT IN THE U.S.?

"I know this straight off the bat, it charted at Number 4. See, I'm pretty good at this, huh!" ✓

5 NAME THE THREE OTHER BANDS YOU PLAYED WITH ON FALL OUT BOY'S BELIEVERS NEVER SAY DIE PART DEUX TOUR IN 2009...

"I can absolutely do that, it was a really fun tour. It was Cobra Starship, Hey Monday, Metro Station and us. I think 50 Cent did a few of the shows, too, which was cool!" ✓

6 YOU HEADLINED THE 2010 EDITION OF THE KERRANG! TOUR, BUT WHERE WAS THE FINAL VENUE THE TOUR VISITED?

"It was in London somewhere, wasn't it? These things tend to end up in London. It was The Roundhouse, wasn't it? Yeah, I thought so, I love that venue, I remember that being an awesome show and everyone at Kerrang! looking after us brilliantly for the whole thing, so thanks!" ✓



Fall Out Boy: three hours after their car broke down

7 WHAT MONTH WAS DON'T PANIC RELEASED IN?

"Oh God... I've no idea. This is going to be the first one of these I get wrong, too, isn't it? Goddammit! Was it... August? October! Shit." ✗



8 MARK HOPPUS FEATURES ON FUTURE HEARTS... BUT WHAT IS THE TRACK NUMBER OF THE SONG?

"Well, it's Tidal Waves, so that's... track eight? I think? Yeah, 'cause the one with Joel [Madden] is 10. Finishing on a victory, that's what we like! I guess this was the thing that happened most recently, though, so I really ought to know that!" ✓

Seventeen years on, Refused still didn't understand the benefits of a mic... (From left) Dennis Lyxzén, Kristofer Steen, David Sandström and Magnus Flögge

THE STATE OF

PUNK



IT'S THE ALBUM THEY SAID WOULD NEVER, EVER HAPPEN. YET NOW, 17 YEARS ON, **REFUSED** HAVE UNLEASHED A BRAND-NEW RECORD. **DENNIS LYXZÉN** EXPLAINS HOW ALMOST TWO DECADES HAVE HEALED THE HARDCORE LEGENDS' WOUNDS...

On October 6, 1998, police in the small town of Harrisonburg, Virginia, pushed their way into a tiny basement venue and shut down a hardcore show, attended by some 45 fans, that was spiralling out of control.

The frenetic, ultra-confrontational band playing that night were only four songs into their set as the boys in blue swarmed, but it didn't matter: Refused were already fucking dead.

As it turned out, the Swedish quartet's throats had been slashed a little over a week earlier by singer Dennis Lyxzén, who, full of rage at his bandmates and venomous disappointment in the world around him, penned the band a red-raw suicide note and signed it in blood.

"We will never play together again and we will never try to glorify or celebrate what was..." read that final, now-legendary, communiqué. "And we will not give interviews to stupid reporters who still haven't got anything of what we are all about..."

With those words in mind, it's with some deal of trepidation that Kerrang! sits down to talk to Dennis about the state of Refused in 2015: a band who reconvened for live shows some three years ago but have now, crucially, released their first new material since their seminal *The Shape Of Punk To Come* in the year of their split.

Thankfully, Dennis seems in more genial mood than he was on that autumn day 17 years ago.

"The thing that you have to remember about this band," he begins with precise intonation and a subtle hint of Scandinavian accent, "is that it is *our* band, and, ultimately, we are the ones who get to decide what we do with it. For a long time it felt like Refused belonged to someone else. But we came to realise that the people it belonged to was us.

"It's easy to love a band when they have split up," he continues with a sigh, considering the legendary status the band's tumultuous first blaze of glory acquired them. "People can put a band in a neat little box and act like they own them. But for me personally, for a long time when people talked about Refused, it felt like they were talking about something I was not a part of. I felt like I had no connection to it. It was a burden to me, really."

It was that burden that kept Refused apart for

the longest time. Dennis found other outlets for his high-wire energy, of course, most notably The (International) Noise Conspiracy and AC4 (the latter of which also featured Refused drummer David Sandström), but the prospect of all of Refused's ranks getting back into a room together seemed, to put it mildly, distant at best.

"The break-up of Refused was very painful," explains Dennis. "I honestly never thought there would ever be any more shows, let alone new music. That I'm even talking to you about this is wild..."

In the end, it was curiosity that got the better of Dennis Lyxzén.

"I just couldn't help but wonder what could be," he grins. "When the rest of the band [completed by guitarist Kristofer Steen and bassist Magnus Flögge] got in touch with me, I was very sceptical about how much of a good idea getting back together was. But I got curious because Kris is the type of guy who wrote [Refused classic] *New Noise*, put his guitar away for 10 years and then picked it up and wrote [new Refused single] *Elektra*."

"I got intrigued by how we were going to do it, how we were going to pull it off, what direction we were going to take," enthuses Dennis. "All those things are still interesting to me as a human, especially as someone who really loves making

"THE BREAK-UP OF REFUSED WAS VERY PAINFUL FOR ME"

DENNIS LYXZÉN

REFUSED

TO COME



music with those three when it's right."

There were, Dennis admits, other motivations for reigniting the band, too.

"I think when we played shows in 2012, that was the start of us unpicking the myths around Refused," Dennis explains. "It fucks with people's heads and I like it — this is us now, this is what we look like, this is what we sound like. New music is just a further part of deconstructing that whole legacy."

So, was there any nervousness at all on the band's behalf about devaluing their history? After all, the glory of being in one of hardcore's most universally acclaimed acts is a big stake to gamble with.

"We've always been conscious about what Refused is and represents, and when we wrote [new album] *Freedom*, we talked about that a lot," Dennis asserts. "Am I worried about people not liking it? Well, when we put out *The Shape Of Punk To Come*, a lot of people didn't like that, either. Kids in the hardcore scene thought we were pretentious assholes. You can't not do something you want because you're scared of people's reaction."

Indeed, Refused have never been afraid to speak their minds, and *The Shape Of Punk...*'s fired-up left-wing political rhetoric traverses the 17-year canyon and translates onto the 5K-rated *Freedom* in spades.

"The new record contains some of my most extreme lyrics to date," bristles the singer. "I feel like

music used to have gravitas and meaning...but now so much of it has been diluted to lowest common denominator crap. Punk and the kinds of things that we sprung from was rebel music, there was an idea of an opposition. I think that has kind of been lost along the way; [we've] ended [up] in this place where you just have grown men in shorts screaming angrily at nothing. As Billy Gibbons from ZZ Top once said, 'Play music the way you want to hear music,' and that's what Refused in 2015 is."

What Refused also are is a band who, once again,

have set about penning their own future — a future that they have finally reclaimed the reins of.

"My friend asked me the other day 'What will you do if this album is a total flop?'" smiles Dennis. "I looked at him like, 'I'll just do another record.'"

And then, with one final laugh...

"I just really hope it doesn't take 17 years for people to decide they like this one!"

It's over to you guys, then...

FREEDOM IS OUT NOW VIA EPITAPH

NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN!

REFUSED AREN'T THE ONLY BAND TO EVER GO BACK ON A PROMISE...

JANE'S ADDICTION

In 2008, frontman Perry Farrell compared the odds of his band reuniting to that of "there being commercial space flights". The *New Year* hadn't even dawned before the quartet were back together.



CREED

When Mark Tremonti started Alter Bridge out of the ashes of Creed in 2004, he noted that "Creed will never exist as a band again". Yet, in 2009, the band reunited for a tour and new album. You could say they came back with arms wide open...



AMERICAN NIGHTMARE

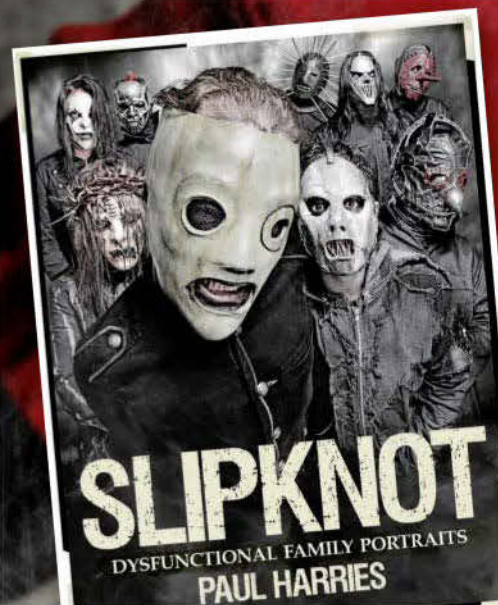
The hardcore heroes made their live return in 2011 following a seven-year absence, and a choice blog from singer Wes Eisold in which he explained that "this is a band that can never play again". Oh...



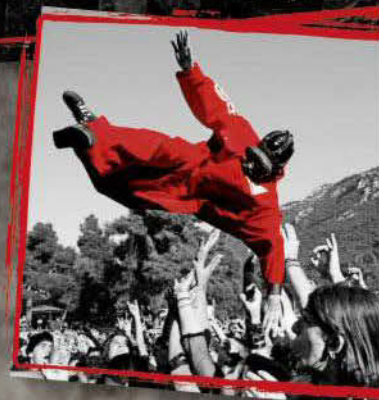
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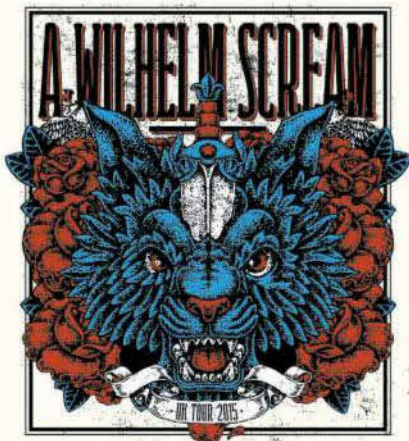


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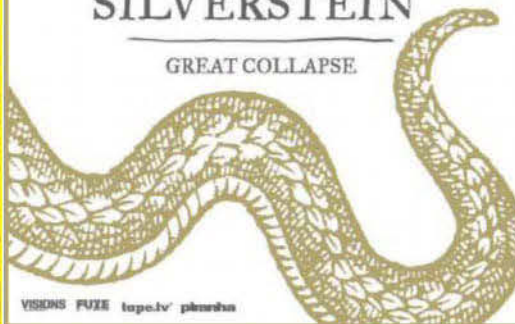
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Bro-hermian Rhapsody: (Clockwise from bottom) Chad Nicefield (vocals), Jason Spencer (guitar), Matt Puhly (drums), Kyle Landry (guitar) and James Lascu (bass)



THE TRUE FACE OF ROCK'N'ROLL




WORDS: AMIT SHARMA PHOTO: IAN COLLINS

THEY'VE A FEARSOME REPUTATION FOR ENJOYING ROCK'S EXCESSES, BUT THERE'S MUCH MORE TO DETROIT ROCKERS **WILSON** THAN MEETS THE EYE...

Austin, Texas, is sweating to the tune of 35 degrees, and Wilson frontman Chad Nicefield is cursing the sun, nursing a hangover. It's hardly his first if anything, it's to be expected from the man that penned tracks like College Gangbang and Viking Pussies Fuck Off on a debut album titled Full Blast Fuckery. Over the past two years, the Detroit riff-ragers have been touring nonstop. And then touring some more. Today, the cumulative effects of paralyzing humidity, endless nights on the road and, of course, last night's debauchery make for a contemplative mood.

"I'll tell you how I woke up this morning," he grunts. "I woke up with my face smashed on a floor next to a ball of dirty clothes. The rest of my band were in the same position, except for one of us who slept in the van because there wasn't enough space on the floor."

So far, so what... Wilson aren't exactly the first band to enjoy the rock lifestyle. Yet, for one reason or another, it's become one of the prime foundations of their very institution which, to some extent, ushers a level of disservice to their music. This summer they'll be releasing their second record, *Right To Rise*: another collection of ball-breaking rock anthems. And while it's the kind of album that screams at you to break out the whisky, scratch the surface and you'll find much more to the quintet than they're letting on.

Last year, FBI stats again identified Detroit, Michigan, as the murder capital of the U.S.: bodies piling up at 10 times the national rate. The year prior, the city filed the biggest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history. The streets that weren't burning in chaos were simply left abandoned. Even government officials, usually the first to sweep whatever they can under the carpet, went as far as to highlight homicide as "a public health issue".

Psychologically, it was the kind of Hell on Earth that would penetrate any human to the core.

Unsurprisingly, *Right To Rise* was an album born as the city was tearing itself apart, from the inside out.

"We have a lot of pride," reasons Chad. "because we've been set aside by the rest of the world as these underdogs. We got cast away once the industries changed and the companies that made our Motor City went away. *Right To Rise* is kinda like a written piece about where we live, and all the people within the confines of its walls. Detroit is a place of local majesty, as well as crime and punishment."

The singer grew up an hour's drive away, close enough to hear the horror stories but distanced adequately not to get caught up in them. "You were definitely told at a young age where to go and where not to go," he reasons. Yet he remains disarmingly compassionate about that city crumbling before his eyes, and its very public downward spiral.

"If you were looking for trouble, you could find it in Detroit at any time you'd want," he sighs. "No problem whatsoever. People had to do those sorts of things in order to survive. Crime is typically the reaction of the absolute want or need to survive. That's the basis of the city in general: you have to survive."

"This isn't a story of violence, though," he adds. "It's about fighting for your life in a different way. Because we truly did go into the shitter and now we're trying to fly out of the fuckin' septic tank!"

**"MY BIGGEST
FEAR IS NOT
SURVIVING"**

CHAD NICEFIELD

It doesn't take long in the company of Chad Nicefield to know he's a *lifer*. It's a 'day off' on their U.S. tour with Nothing More, but, instead of recharging whatever's left of the batteries, Wilson are headlining their own show. Other than a fascination with stand-up comedy — something that he's still plucking up the courage to pursue — there isn't, he says, much else to life beyond music. And while he's grateful for that, it comes at a cost.

"I've been touring since my mid-teens and I've lost everything I've had," Chad reveals. "Like relationships, because I wasn't able to be in that person's life. There were times I put all the bad things I possibly could into my body... but I'm a different person now."

Quizzed on what revelations led to him slowing down, the 32-year-old singer is quick to assert he still enjoys many of the excesses that come hand-in-hand with rock'n'roll. It was actually an unrelated change in his mental health that forced him to retune life.

"I had to go to the hospital for sleep deprivation," he croaks. "I live in my head so much that even if my mouth is shut, my brain is not. I've tried sleeping pills, medicine, everything... Being physically exhausted is one thing, but mental exhaustion is a different beast."

For a moment, the thick baritone evaporates almost as if he's forgotten the tape was still rolling. The all-American, red-blooded alpha male that greeted us fades as Chad considers his next words wisely.

"[People go on about us] partying, but we have something to say beyond that," Chad admits. "If you soak up my lyrics, you don't get that vibe of 'Drink booze and party!'. I'm writing these notes about this area of the world I live in. We're trying to explore the trials and tribulations of man's ruin. My biggest fear isn't being unable to pay my bills or getting my heart broken — it's not being able to survive."

They say you can take a boy out of a city, but you can't take the city out of a boy. And in the case of the Wilson frontman, they're probably right.

**WILSON'S RIGHT TO RISE IS OUT NOW
VIA RAZOR & TIE**

HAIR OF THE CHAD

THE WILSON MAN'S TOP
HANGOVER CURE...

LIQUIDS!

CHAD SAYS...

"You're going to have to take the nearest plastic bottle you can find and fill it up with, preferably, a mixture of water and booze. That way you can get a little bit of hair of the dog in there! Hydrate yourself to get some energy."



CAFFEINE!

CHAD SAYS...

"From that point forward, go and take two shots of espresso. That's what I do every morning before I open my door and high-kick the world right in the face. From that point in the day, you won't be looking back, you'll be moving forwards."



GREASE!

CHAD SAYS...

"Fry-ups are good. You need something to flush the shit out. You want to make your body feel like you're dying in order to heal. Get a Hawaiian pizza if you can. That little zest of pineapple can give you so much hope for the day!"



FROM HERE TO INFERNO

AS DAVE GROHL'S LEGS AND 5SOS' MICHAEL CLIFFORD'S BURNT FLESH CAN TESTIFY, BEING A ROCKSTAR IS A DANGEROUS GAME. PUT ON YOUR BEST WINCING FACE AS WE RECALL SOME OF THE WORST ROCK'N'ROLL INJURIES OF ALL TIME....

WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE ILLUSTRATION: MICHAEL HACKER

BEN WEINMAN'S VERTE-BREAK

The award for Most Impressive-Sounding Injury undoubtedly goes to The Dillinger Escape Plan's guitarist, Ben Weinman, who not only broke a vertebrae in his neck on the Anaheim leg of 2005's Gigantour in the States, but had to go to the stationary cupboard to get his noggin fixed, too. "I split my head open; massive concussion and only later found out that I'd also broken a bone in my neck," explained Ben after the event. "I dunno if you've ever had staples, but it's literally a staple gun shooting into your skull. It's really violent." We haven't, Ben, no, and based on this little chat, we don't think we'll be rushing out to get some, either....



NOVOSELIC'S KNOCKOUT



If you were performing at the MTV Music Video Awards, what would you do? Wave to your mum? Shout out to your little brother? Not Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic. "[I thought] fuck it — time for the bass-toss schtick," remembered the four-stringer some years later. "So, up it goes! I always try to get good air — I bet I hit over 25 feet, easy! But no matter how high it went, I was not on my game — the only time I've ever dropped it was then, in front of 300 million people!" The instrument landed right on his bonce, knocking him clean out in the process.

BRENDON URIE'S BOTTLE ATTACK



When Panic At The Disco took to the main stage at Reading Festival in 2006, their young hearts must have been leaping for joy at being in front of such a massive audience. Unfortunately, within that massive audience was one massive jerk who decided to launch a bottle at Brendon Urie, hitting the poor fella square in the chops and knocking him out cold. "I've got a bruise, but it looks good. It makes me look rugged and tough," laughed Brendon, although he now wears a BMX helmet at every show he plays (we may have made that last bit up).

MATT BELLAMY'S TOOTHLESS TUNES



When you think of Matt Bellamy, you think of warbling guitar solos, sky-scraping vocals and impromptu dentistry, right? When the Muse mainman smashed himself with his guitar's headstock onstage in 2004, he was convinced he'd taken some of his pearly whites out on the way. The band ended up finishing the set just five songs after they had begun, as Matt announced, "I've fucked my face up real bad." Well, if you will try to kiss the tuning pegs, Matthew....



STEVEN TYLER'S STAGE NOSEDIVE



Poor old Mr Tyler has taken a couple of tumbles during Aerosmith's smash hit Love In An Elevator over the years, most notably in 2009 when he fell off a South Dakotan stage causing himself serious head, neck and shoulder injuries. We're sure he was livin' it up as he was going down, at least...

MÖTLEY'S FIREWORK FAIL



The Crüe wrapping up their career might be a health and safety blessing in disguise for drummer Tommy Lee who, in 2005, was hospitalised when sparks from nearby pyrotechnics hit him as his was swinging from one drum kit to another via a wire a dozen feet above the stage. Yes, we know that sounds ridiculous, but this is Mötley Crüe we're talking about here. Tommy was, thankfully, okay.

SLIPKNOT'S HEEL SMASH



Slipknot's infamous #0 has a penchant for lunatic stage-dives, indulging in several leaps over the course of his career that you fancy would have killed a lesser man ("Any venue you go to where there's a balcony or some kind of high railing, you can probably pretty much bet that I've jumped off of it," he once proclaimed in an interview). Still, when he took a crash-landing in Auburn, Washington, on the first date of the 2008 Mayhem tour, he managed to shatter both his heels in one fell swoop. Unbelievably – or, actually, quite believably, given that it's Sid Wilson – he not only finished the show, but completed the entire tour, albeit from a wheelchair. Smashing stuff (literally).

HETFIELD'S FLESH-SCORCHER



While performing at Montreal's Olympic Stadium in 1992, Metallica's James Hetfield took a wander a little too close to some pyrotechnic flames during the song Fade To Black... and ended up with second- and third-degree burns all up the left side of his body and face. Although his guitar protected him a little, Papa Het was out of action for a good two weeks – and even when he did make his onstage return, his six-string duties were handed over to a tech so the big man could focus on vocals alone. "My hand was completely down to the bone," recalled the singer later. "I looked down and just watched the skin just rising..." Burn, baby, burn, Hetfield inferno.

BIERSACK'S RIB-CRACKER



He might be the handsomest man in rock but when the BVB frontman took a leap off a balcony at The Hollywood and Highland venue in 2011, things turned real ugly. Yet despite shattering two ribs, and displacing one on his left side, Andy still returned to the stage to finish the show, before a swift trip to A&E to glue himself back together. "It was, without a doubt, the most painful thing I have ever experienced," he later told us. "Imagine the pain of someone holding an iron to your face."

WATSKY'S DAFT LEG-DROP



Rapper Watsky made Sid Wilson look like Captain Sensible at 2013's UK leg of Warped Tour, where he leapt 30 feet off a lighting rig into the crowd, leaving a woman in the crowd with a broken arm and Watsky himself strapped to a stretcher with suspected smashed legs. The San Franciscan rapper was alright in the end, and thankfully later realised that the jump was "not awesome and not badass".

THE SONGS THAT SAVED MY LIFE

HE MIGHT BE THE BEARDED SIX-STRING MAESTRO IN ONE OF BRITAIN'S BIGGEST BANDS, BUT WHEN K! QUIZZED MAX WE FOUND THAT HE IS A MAN OF BROAD TASTE: INCLUDING A BIT OF REGGAE AND, ER, SOME SERIOUSLY CHEESY POP!

THIS WEEK: MAX HELYER | YOU ME AT SIX

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME THINK OF HOME IS...

MONEY

PINK FLOYD

"When I was growing up and my dad drove me to football, he'd blast Pink Floyd really loudly in the car. Every time I hear that ba-doom-doom bassline it takes me back, and it's like I'm 10 again."

FIND IT: Dark Side Of The Moon (1973)

THE SONG I'D LOVE TO COVER IS...

BUFFALO SOLDIER

**BOB MARLEY & THE
WAILERS**

"I'd like to cover something timeless, something that we listen to as a band, so maybe Buffalo Soldier. It would be fun, and show off a different side to our band. We'd definitely like to go off the beaten track. We don't want to stick to stuff similar to what we play – it's fun to adapt and learn. Reggae's quite difficult to play, so it would be good to learn from the greatest."

FIND IT: Confrontation (1983)

THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO BE A MUSICIAN WAS...

COME AS YOU ARE

NIRVANA

"This or Smells Like Teen Spirit. Nirvana were a big thing for me growing up. It was past the time Nirvana were together, but I'd see them on Kerrang! TV and read about them a lot in the magazine. Their legacy will always live on – whenever you hear them, they're an absolutely timeless band. Their music is so simple, it will last forever. If I'm honest, I'm a bit nervous to watch [Kurt Cobain documentary] Montage Of Heck – there are probably some things that happened behind closed doors that I don't necessarily want to see onscreen right there in front of me."

FIND IT: Nevermind (1991)

THE SONG WITH THE BEST LYRICS IS...

MILLSTONE

BRAND NEW

"I think Jesse Lacey is really clever with lyrics. He really makes people think. That record, The Devil And God Are Raging Inside Me, was quite a sad, depressing record, so you really listened closely to the lyrics. Hearing what he was talking about and what he was going through was really impactful and emotional to me at the time. I think that was the album that really made people sit up and notice. Brand New, and the lyrics on it, were definitely a huge part of that process, I would say."

FIND IT: The Devil And God Are Raging Inside Me (2006)

"I WANT
BON IVER
PLAYED AT MY
FUNERAL"

MAX HELYER



THE BEST SONG THAT'S EVER BEEN WRITTEN IS...

HERE COMES THE SUN

THE BEATLES

"Or While My Guitar Gently Weeps. The Beatles were a band that I kind of dismissed when I was young, but the last few years I've really listened to them a lot. They've become a big part of my life. I love George Harrison as a songwriter – I'm a guitarist, so I can relate to something like that. Here Comes The Sun is just such a happy song, it can't help but put a smile on your face."

FIND IT: Abbey Road (1969)

A SONG I'VE COME TO APPRECIATE MORE IS...

WHOLE LOTTA LOVE

LED ZEPPELIN

"It's just a legendary riff, you know? As a British rock band they really left their mark on the industry and the world. I always liked it, but only when I was a bit older and experimenting with going further back in music did Led Zeppelin really hit me. Our band can really relate to the energy they have. We've been doing it for 10 years now and Zeppelin were a band that came up – they didn't pop straight away, there was a growth there that they kept building on."

FIND IT: Led Zeppelin II (1969)

THE LAST SONG I LISTENED TO WAS...

UNDER PRESSURE

LOGIC

"There's a hip-hop artist called Logic who just got signed to Def Jam in America. The album version of this track is nine minutes long, but he's just got a really good flow. He's a white rapper, but not, like, a clichéd one, he's really intelligent and a great lyricist, and creates his own beat

THE WORST SONG EVER IS...**PROVING GROUNDS****ATTILA**

"There's some shit out there. People like it, I appreciate that, but my honest opinion is it's fucking shocking. I don't want to badmouth anyone, but I just don't get it. It isn't fucking music. It's like a joke. I couldn't even name a song. The whole fucking collection of them. I don't want to be a dickhead, I just don't get it."

FIND IT: Guilty Pleasure (2014)



as well. It's really upbeat and uptempo, like hype music. It made me sit up and bounce. We play rock music all the time, so it's good to experiment."

FIND IT: Under Pressure (2014)

THE SONG YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT TO FIND ON MY IPOD IS...**SLAM DUNK
(DA FUNK)****SIVE**

"I don't really do guilty pleasures – I tend to just think if it's good, it's good. But there's some old-school pop that was cheesy even at the time that you can't help but like. I actually bought this and it's on my phone."

FIND IT: Sive (1998)

A SONG THAT MAKES ME CRY IS...**BETH/REST****BON IVER**

"That's a difficult one to answer. Beth/Rest, I don't know that it's made me cry, but it's the sort of song I'd like played at my funeral. It's so epic and is one of those songs that makes you sit back, listen and think."

FIND IT: Bon Iver, Bon Iver (2011)

**THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO STAGE-DIVE IS...****DESTINED****THE GHOST INSIDE**

"I've definitely stage-dived to this before. When you hear it, you want to turn it up really fucking loud, and have it screamed into your face and grab you by the head. You just want to fucking mosh. It's so angry!"

FIND IT: Fury And The Fallen Ones (2008)

THE SONG OF OURS THAT'S MOST HARD TO PLAY IS...**THE RUMOUR****YOU ME
AT SIX**

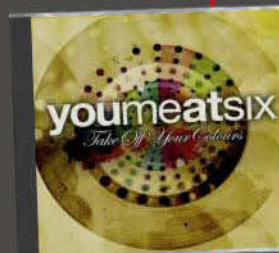
"We wrote it when we were really young, and I put together this intricate guitar part. When I play it now, the tempo of it makes me wonder what the fuck I was on! I must have been a really hyper kid. I'm still pretty hyper now, so god knows what I was like back then – probably drinking Red Bull and bouncing off the walls!"

FIND IT: Take Off Your Colours (2008)

THE SONG I'D LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED FOR IS...**ROOM TO BREATHE****YOU ME AT SIX**

"It's hard to pin down what we're all about. Maybe Room To Breathe from the last record. It was the first riff I was working on for the album. I played it for the band and an hour-and-a-half later the song was written. It's our biggest single to date and really shaped where we are as a band these days."

FIND IT: Cavalier Youth (2014)



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ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

PAUL STANLEY KISS

WHAT MAKES A ROCKSTAR? PAINTING AND COOKING PIZZAS IN THE CASE OF THIS FLAMBOYANT FRONTMAN...

fig.1

MY FACE WILL LIVE ON WITHOUT ME...

"The Starchild persona is something that was born from inside me. It's become one of the most recognisable faces in the world. I'm prepared for Kiss to continue without me and for someone else to take up the baton. Kiss is bigger than any of its members."

fig.2

THE THING I MISS MOST WHEN I'M ON TOUR IS...

"Touring became much more difficult once I had a family. It's certainly something that I make sure I balance because I want to help make my kids who they are. It's very easy to go the other way – a lot of people can say their dad's main contribution to the person they became was the fact that they weren't around."

fig.3

THE CAUSE I'M MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT IS...

"I'm involved with an organisation called AboutFace, which provides support for people with facial differences. I was born with microtia [a defect of the outer ear] and that affected me deeply. AboutFace was really the opening of a door for me, by which I acknowledged my own difference and birth defect and freed myself of a big secret."

fig.4

ONE OF MY BIGGEST ARTISTIC CHALLENGES WAS...

"I played the Phantom in a production of The Phantom Of The Opera, and it was satisfying on a level that is very different and perhaps deeper emotionally than performing in a band. I first saw Phantom in London in '88, I think, with [former girlfriend and glamour model] Sam Fox. It blew me away."

fig.5

I'M ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW CREATIVE OUTLETS...

"I've always enjoyed and sought out creative outlets. I don't understand a singular focus in terms of expressing yourself creatively. I think the more tools I find, the more I understand who I am. Music is a great vehicle and outlet. Painting and music are completely different but it's a different part of the same puzzle, as far as my life goes."

fig.6

THE WAY I KEEP FIT IS...

"It's funny because when I thought about 'exercise regimes', it always made me think of someone who was fanatical and had this strict regimen that keeps them from doing other things. But I have a regime that's actually great fun. It's a dancer's workout called Cardio Barre and it's a class that I take four or five times a week. It combines aerobics, light weights, stretching, flexibility and core strength."

fig.7

MY FAVOURITE DISH TO COOK IS...

"I love cooking. I love Italian food and I actually make a great pizza. I've got a stone pizza-oven outside, so I'm the guy throwing the dough up in the air. I also make great bolognese and lasagne, but I can turn my hand to pretty much anything. Another good one in my repertoire is swordfish with capers, lemon and white wine. I like cooking, it's a fun thing to do and I like doing it with my wife."

fig.8

I BECAME A SUCCESSFUL PAINTER BY ACCIDENT...

"The first time I put on a gallery show of my paintings, I honestly didn't take it seriously. I did it more because a gallery owner I knew suggested I do it, so I went in with no expectations. I was gratified but surprised that people so quickly connected with the art and were acquiring it. I never started painting for anyone except myself. It was something I initially chose to keep private and it was an outlet for me. I had no idea what to expect, so I took it rather lightly."

fig.9

THE MOVIE THAT AFFECTED ME MOST WAS...

"When I was a teenager I saw Easy Rider and, being the young hippy rebel in the making that I was, I saw it as a proof that the country I was living in was in trouble. I thought that not toeing the line and stepping where you were told to step could be dangerous and could even have fatal repercussions."

"KISS IS BIGGER THAN ANY OF ITS MEMBERS"

• PAUL STANLEY •

LIVES

RATINGS

KKKKK = CLASSIC
 KKKK = EXCELLENT
 KKK = GOOD
 KK = AVERAGE
 K = POOR

Danny had enough material left over from the backdrop to make a shirt

HELLFEST

CLISSON, FRANCE

19 – 21.06.15

WORDS: NICK RUSSELL PHOTOS: ERIC – OZIRITH.COM / NICKO GUIHAL / CLEMENT THIERY – HELLFEST PROD

THREE DAYS OF PURE ROCK FUN IN THE SUN AT EUROPE'S BIGGEST, BADDEST FESTIVAL

WE ARE HARLOT KKKK

DANNY WORSNOP PROVES HE'S STILL GOT THAT OLD SWAGGER

■ AEROSMITH WERE one of the headliners at last year's Hellfest. Evidently, frontman Steven Tyler left some of his stage clothes behind, and Danny Worsnop's found them in his dressing room today. Fortunately, British rock's cheekiest chappy has the exact same swagger as the permanently teenaged 'Smith screecher. Strutting around the stage as he slinks through Dancing On Nails

in his Marlboro-coated rasp, he really has got this rockstar thing nailed. The crowd might not be as big as he might have seen during his Asking Alexandria days but relax, man. The sun's out, the beer's cold, and right now, as long as the rock keeps oozing out the speakers, that's all that matters. And besides, it's early days. Which also means that, with only one album to their name, they need to pad out a bit, firing off an outrageously fun cover of Queen's Tie Your Mother Down, before One More Night rounds things off with "the biggest fucking circle-pit I've ever seen". Although quite why you'd end with a song containing the line 'Start the show', we don't know. Still, they are Harlot, and they are great.



FRIDAY

10:30 What the fuck is that enormous orange thing in the sky? Oh, it's the sun. He's not at the British festivals, but here, in the small French village of Clisson, he's everywhere. As are bands. From 10:30 in the morning to 2am the following morning, Hellfest serves up a non-stop buffet of music. There's two main stages full of rock royalty, another two serving up death and black metal, a place for doom and far-out stoner sounds, and a punk stage. And as the sun's out, what better way to start the party than with...

11:31 ...A dark death-metal vortex, cooked up by Swiss duo **BÖLZER** (KKKK). Bassist? Nah, no need the heavy terror cooked up with just one guitar is louder than two Hells.

12:50 Over on one of the parallel main stages, **SYLOSIS** (KKKK) emerge and start shredding.

12:59 Still shredding.

13:06 They shred some more. But now with some headbanging. Sweet.

16:35 It's a nice day for something, but what? Do you know, **BILLY IDOL** (KKKK)?

Oh, a **WHITE WEDDING!** **17:02** Or a **REBEL YELL!** And the leathery British icon, today stripped to the waist and with a sneer that could wither a florist, really is yelling.

17:35 Billy says,

"Motörhead are up next!" before adding, "Give Lemmy a big kiss from me!" With pleasure...

17:41 But not so fast! First up, there's **HIGH ON FIRE** (KKKK) in the doom tent, which is like having a heavier, faster dose of 'Head before Lemmy comes up. And with far more amps onstage than strictly necessary, it really is a case of Everything Louder Than Everything Else here.

18:01 Lemmy strides onto the main stage. Yep, they are **MOTÖRHEAD** (KKKK), and they're going to play rock'n'roll.

18:02 The man's bass makes more noise than a Harrier jet landing in your ear: With the big man's recent health problems, it's a racket that's never sounded sweeter.

19:40 'WWYYAAWWWW!' That'll be **LAMB OF GOD** (KKKK) arriving on the main stage.

19:51 "Merci beaucoup! Ça va?" asks Randy Blythe



Randy Blythe's comb back in Virginia



Whatever was on Coop's finger, it didn't smell good



Lemmy seemed unperturbed by the sinking stage

SLIPKNOT K K K K

**COREY TAYLOR AND CO ANGRILY
TELL HELLFEST PEOPLE = MERDE**

■ ONE O' CLOCK in the morning is not the most obvious time to steel yourself for a musical beating. But if you're after one, Slipknot are here to send you to bed with a boot print on your arse. Continuing his mission to say "motherfucker" more times than anyone in history, Corey Taylor is on fiery form tonight, as the 'Knot batter their way through The Heretic Anthem, Surfacing and Sarcastrophe like bulls in a wine shop. Even with all the pyro, rotating drums and ultra-blinding lightshow, this is a far more vicious, violent affair than their world-class set at Download a couple of weeks ago. The venom Corey spits is like that of a pissed-off rattlesnake, and the bad vibes of Psychosocial and People = Shit feel far more dangerous and sharp-edged than a show of this magnitude really should. But when it's way past bedtime, that's exactly what you want – irritable, unreasonable rage that doesn't exist for any reason other than to be screamed in your face. It's not the most perfect show the 'Knot will ever play, but it's the fiercest they've done for a long time.



Just the one croissant for Corey Taylor, then

STAR SHOUT! COREY TAYLOR SLIPKNOT (VOCALS)

HOW ARE YOU ENJOYING THE EUROPEAN FESTS?
"It's great. Download was amazing, as it always is, and the rest of this tour's been great, too. The festivals here are different to America, they're way more crazy over here."

HOW IS IT DOING THESE BIG SHOWS WITH THE NEW-ISH GUYS?
"Great! They're so on it, and they know what's important to this band, and what we mean to our fans. They totally clicked, and it's made the shows amazing."

following Redneck. This appears to be the extent of the big man's French, so whatever the bloke in the Viking helmet to our left shouts at the band in his native tongue will remain a mystery until the end of time.

20:45 We've already given **ALICE COOPER (K K K K K)** his Kerrang! Legend award. And while the king of showbiz macabre could have put the bloody thing on a chain round his neck or something, tonight he strides on with that riding crop and proves that the man is worthy of his prize.

20:46 Yes, that's a guitarist covered in blood.

20:59 Yes, that's a fuck-off sword in Coop's hand.

21:38 Yes, that's a zombified nurse coming onstage to pump Coop full of enough of whatever's in that giant

syringe to fell a... Well, whatever Alice Cooper is.

21:46 Coop kills a roadie by impaling him. As you do.

21:49 A guillotine appears. Given that we're in France, how the hell has it taken this long to make it onstage?

21:50 Alice's head comes clean off. But not before, it should be noted, 20,000 people have called for it. All fun and games, this shock'n' roll lark...

22:01 Anyone seen where **MASTODON (K K K)**

put their excitement? Seems to have fallen out of their luggage somewhere en route. Tonight they're fine, but you really do want them to do March Of The Fire

Ants or Blood And Thunder when you're in wine country and the festival party's on.

22:10 "Seriously, I'm gonna knock you the fuck out." No. **FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH (K K K K)**

frontman Ivan Moody isn't introducing their cover of LL Cool J's Mama Said Knock You Out. He's threatening the main stage spotlight operative.

22:11 "This one's for you, motherfucker. It's called Hard To See." Ouch...

22:12 Spotlight guy doesn't hit the 'off' switch. We'll be honest, mate, it's showing every vein in Ivan's neck we'd turn it off.

23:10 "Alright, Hellfest, the



Ivan Moody, being moody



Patrick Stewart's Rob Halford outfit was complete genius

Priest is BACK!" What Priest? Only **JUDAS PRIEST (K K K K K)**: Metal on!

23:51 VAAAAAAAAALLLHAAAAA ALLLLLLAAAAAA! That'll be Halls Of Valhalla, then.

23:55 Rob Halford rides onstage on his giant motorbike for Hell Bent For Leather. We can't confirm if he's driving on the right side of the road.

00:40 'Livin' after midnight, rockin' to the dawn'. Midnight was 40 minutes ago, and we're nowhere near bed, with rockin' to Slipknot to come before the dawn. Sleep, as they say, is for the weak.

LIMP BIZKIT KKKK

FREDDY D PUTS HIS DANCING SHOES ON FOR A PARTAY

■ "I FUCKING love dancing," declares Fred Durst, doing a sort of endearing dad-rock shuffle. "You wanna dance with us a bit?" Don't think we can help it, mate. Not when there's Break Stuff and Rollin' kicking arses into gear and making feet move of their own accord. But in between these moments of riotous fun, today Limp Bizkit are in more of a mellow mood. Fred shimmys around to Re-Arranged, while Wes Borland – today looking like he's raided the wardrobe of a 1920s dandy and a goth-cowboy at the same time – is locked into more of a Hendrix-y groove than the big, bouncy smashers he unleashes during LB's heavier moments. Although that doesn't stop him throwing in a mid-set run through of Megadeth's Holy Wars... The Punishment Due. The daft bastard. When he finally does hit the 'mosh' button, however, it's like unleashing a load of rubber balls into a centrifuge. Dancing? You really can't help yourself sometimes.



The baggage handlers mixed Wes' luggage up with the clown's again



Fred Durst: always ready for a game of cricket

SATURDAY

12:50 A rest? PAH! There's a veritable shitload to get through today. Let's start with something as dark as the sun is hot. Oh look, it's **MOTIONLESS IN WHITE (KKKK)**.

13:00 Chris Motionless looks as though he really should have dressed better for the weather. He looks like a slowly melting, morbid ice cream.

14:20 Devonshire doomsters **THE WOUNDED KINGS (KKKK)** unload a truckful of surprisingly joyous – but ultra-slow – riffs. Even at 3bpm, it's exhilarating stuff.

16:45 After that darkness, we need a pick me up. Oh hi, **AIRBOURNE (KKKK)**. Christ, you're loud.

17:00 Frontman Joel O'Keeffe smashes a can of beer over his head. Total pro.

18:46 Do you want some class? There's a bloke in a hat here. You can call him **SLASH (KKKK)**.

18:58 And there you go, he's just out-cooled everyone else here with that naughty lick from Sweet Child O' Mine.

19:10 Paradise City turns 20,000 people watching into air-guitar champs. Nice.

19:45 Is that Professor Snape from Harry Potter? Oh no, it's Jaz Coleman from **KILLING JOKE (KKKK)**.

20:02 Sadly Jaz doesn't fire off any of his

usual between-song conspiracies about satellites keeping an eye on our water supply. He does dance like he's got a loose electric cable up his arse, though.

21:10 "We're here to play some heavy fuckin' metal." As mission statements go, **ORANGE GOBLIN (KKKKK)** frontman Ben Ward's takes some

beating. And with the biggest crowd the doom tent will see all weekend, the London booze-groovers do just that, and do it magnificently.

21:19 The colossal riff to They Come Back drops. It doesn't go unnoticed that as the set goes on, the giant Ben is getting noticeably drunker and drunker. And, oddly, better and better.

21:52 "Good? Bad?" asks **FAITH NO MORE's (KKKK)** frontman, Mike Patton, offering thumbs up and thumbs down to FNM's main stage crowd.

21:53 "Heavy metal?" Thumbs up.

21:54 "Heavy merde?" Thumbs down.

22:01 Mike swaps shirts with a security guard. "I'm not sure it's my size." We're not sure your baggy white shirt is impressing the bouncer much, either, pal. **22:32** Norwegian black-metal legends **MAYHEM (KKKK)** appear: Well, 'appear' might be a bit strong. We're sure they're somewhere behind all that dry ice. We can hear them tearing through Freezing Moon and filling France with icky horror, anyway.

23:25 We're going out with a bang! Actually, **SCORPIONS (KKK)**, that's your opening song, so you're arriving with one. Hellfest may be celebrating



Crapping your own band logo: a rare talent

its 10th year, but the Teutonic titans are celebrating their 50th. Happy birthday, German metal blokes.

23:31 The PA inexplicably cuts out. On the video screens, the band continue shredding regardless.

23:32 The PA comes back on. Sadly, it's just in time for a lengthy acoustic spot. Yawn. Still, at least we get Winds Of Change, prompting the only mass-whistling of the festival.

00:01 After that, it's time for **MARILYN MANSON (KKKK)** to bring the night to a close. When you're this tired, it's even odder than normal watching him lurch about to mOBSCENE and Tourniquet.

01:13 "It's this asshole's birthday," Manson announces, pointing to bassist Twiggy Ramirez. Twiggy is then treated to two whole bars of The Beatles' Birthday before Manson orders, "Don't play any more!" We think Twiggy would prefer some socks next year, mate.



Oh look, Slash playing a guitar. Who'd have thought?



Scorpions left their shells and stingers at home



Nightwish's raid on Rob Halford's wardrobe bore much fruit



"That's a guitar." "Yeah dude, that's a mic..."



"Oh for God's sake, not coq au vin again!"

KORN KKKK

NU-METAL HEROES SMASH THROUGH THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF THEIR DEBUT

■ WHERE LIMP Bizkit are the fun end of nu-metal on this bill, headliners Korn are here to remind us that it comes from a place where fun just doesn't exist. Festival bants? Not here. The Bakersfield crew are celebrating (if that's the word) the 21st birthday of their raw, open wound of a debut album. Blind, Ball Tongue and Clown

are vicious and harrowing, while there's something beautifully cathartic about a huge festival crowd bellowing Faget's 'You can suck my dick and fucking like it' line in unison. Seeing Daddy – Jonathan Davis' deeply unsettling tale of sexual abuse at the hands of a family friend, that in the early days he said they'd never play live – is genuinely uncomfortable in a gigantic slot like this, however. But then, this was never meant to be a picnic. And if nothing else, this brutal journey through their past proves that Korn are still capable of forcing you to stare into the abyss.



Manson was desperate to prove he had the most elaborate toothbrush here

SUNDAY

11:05 Gooooood morning, **HAWK EYES (KKKK)**. We're tired. We have coffee and croissants, got any big riffs that could wake us up a bit?

11:06 Oh, you do. Smashing. Thanks!

13:35 Also bringing the riffs, **RED FANG (KKK)**. In fact, they're so big we're gonna need a bigger PA.

16:35 And now for something more sublime. The only reason **GRAVE PLEASURES (KKKK)** aren't all over the radio and festival bills the world over is because they look like a metal band. But their deathly goth-rock is a joy, even when it's far too bright outside to be thinking about how 'Death reflects us'.

17:00 On the main stage, **A DAY TO REMEMBER (KKK)** draw a huge crowd, who go absolutely bananas. So, why don't the band look delighted?

17:25 All I Want gets a huge sing-along.

Jeremy McKinnon still looks like he's an unhappy bunny. Cheer up, mate.

17:35 Finally! A big smile as Plot To Bomb The Panhandle brings things to a close. See, it's not all bad, Jez!

19:30 If you can get into the tent to see **CANNIBAL CORPSE (KKK)**, you're doing better than us. George 'Corpsegrinder' Fisher's muscular neck is still visible from afar; however. And they can probably hear him roaring over Hammer Smashed Face in Belgium.

22:40 If there's ever a time when **TRIPTYKON (KKKK)** stop being the heaviest, darkest thing on whatever bill they're playing, we're quitting listening to music.

22:41 "Hellfest, are you morbid?" asks Tom G Warrior to muted response. "Not too much, apparently." After being force-fed Triptykon's gloom for an hour, that'll all change.

00:35 And so to the final event, **NIGHTWISH (KKKK)**.

Headlining Euro festivals is a game 10-years-old for the Finnish symphonic metallers, and it shows. Everything is slicker than an oil spill, and new-ish frontwoman Floor Jansen's siren-wail fills the sky beautifully.

01:15 Nemo hovers into view like an operatic whale. When it finally hits Wembley in December, it'll be a monster.

02:00 AND THAT'S IT! We're off to bed for a year. Just in time for the next Hellfest, in fact. Très bon!



REVIEWS

RATINGS

KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

ASHESTOANGELS

HORROR CULT – NEW GRAVE EDITION (DUST DEVIL SOUNDS)

KKKK

BRIT NEW GRAVE STARS DISINTER THEIR
LAST ALBUM AND BOLT ON FRESH LEGS



FROM MARILYN Manson through AFI to Motionless In White, it's often seemed like the U.S. has cornered the market in adding dark glamour to prevailing musical trends. The seductive, dangerous excitement of Alice Cooper or Rob Zombie, for all their successes on these shores, remains a very Yankee affair. Given the gothic heritage of these isles, however – from Bram Stoker to Bauhaus – it's good to hear songs of death and romance delivered in an English accent once more. And no British band have embraced the New Grave movement quite the way goth-punk clan Ashestoangels have.

Not that the Bristol-based mob are averse to taking inspiration from wherever it's to be found. You could draw an alternative line through their driving, melodic horror punk that starts at the Misfits and passes straight to Aiden (whose

frontman William Francis, aka William Control, also happened to produce Horror Cult). Add a touch of glam, especially in vocals that occasionally evoke fabulous forebears from synth-pop icon Marc Almond to Placebo's Brian Molko, and you have an album that's as seductive as it is sinister.

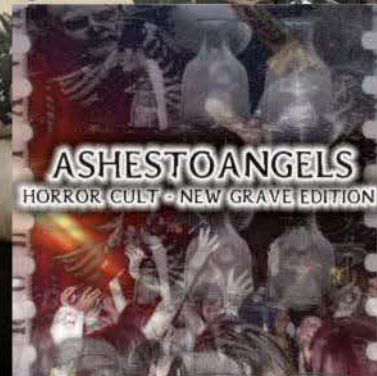
Originally released in 2014 (on Hallowe'en, naturally), Horror Cult made expanding ripples, like an obsidian shard dropped into a moon-kissed pond. Now they're looking to turn those ripples into a wave and, as anyone who's seen them play live could testify, they break with all the irresistible energy of a storm surge. What better way to reintroduce themselves, then, than by reissuing that already extraordinary album with each studio track accompanied by its live twin?

The result isn't always pretty. This is a band who play hard and keep it raw, and the live versions

certainly haven't had those rough edges smoothed over. It verges on ramshackle in places, but that only helps capture the bordering-on-chaotic energy of the shows. Six Six Six is a splendidly frantic opener in both its iterations while Run spunks out solos and melodies like Avenged Sevenfold's back catalogue being put through a wringer. There are more giant hooks than you'd find in Poseidon's tackle box, and songs like Heavy Words And Hollow Bones string poetry across pulsating basslines and stinging riffs.

Ashestoangels might have released the original on Hallowe'en, but with this New Grave Edition it's like Crypt-mas has come early. This is a band that really knows how to *urn* its keep.

DOWNLOAD: Six Six Six, Mary Jane Kelly.
FOR FANS OF: Fearless Vampire Killers, Aiden.
PAUL TRAVERS



"THIS IS US
FIRING ON ALL
CYLINDERS..."

CRILLY

THE INSIDER CRILLY (VOCALS/SYNTH)

WHY ARE YOU RERELEASING HORROR CULT?

"We put it out last October, and we got a really great response from our fans and people who already knew us, but we think now is a good time to bring it to everybody else. We wanted to make sure there was something special on it, so it's got all

these live tracks from a hometown show in Bristol at Christmas. I think we're better live than in the studio, so it shows us firing on all cylinders."

IS THERE A NEW ALBUM IN THE WORKS?

"Yeah, I've started to write it now. I've been thinking about it for a little while, and the ideas are starting to percolate. I've had a couple of sessions where I've just sat down with my guitar and my laptop and started to smash it out. I'm

pretty pleased with how it's going, but there's a bit more to come in terms of touring on Horror Cult."

YOU'RE RELEASING THIS ON A UNIQUE FORMAT, AREN'T YOU?

"The physical copies are going to be on black Ashetoangels USB wristbands. People are going to either think they're the coolest things ever, or they'll remember those snap bracelets from the '90s that you slapped around your wrist and they snapped shut."



TRACK
BY
TRACK

WHAT'S EATING GILBERT

THAT NEW SOUND YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

(HOPELESS)

KKK

QUIFFS AHOY! NEW FOUND GLORY MAINMAN COMES OVER ALL '50S ON SOLO ALBUM

1 YOU'RE THE MOST

Does the fact that Chad Gilbert's solo debut steals a line from Back To The Future give us a clue as to what decade he's wistfully dreaming of? This opens with a crackle of old vinyl, before a simple pop-rock riff kicks in and Chad starts singing about 'Dancing on a Thursday night'. If you still need telling, he's gone all '50s.

2 FOLLOW HER AROUND

The whiff of nostalgia gets stronger as Chad delivers some pop'n'roll as filtered through Weezer:

3 THE WAY SHE LOVES ME

'She loved me like a summer day / I was lost, I was broken', croons Chad. It's simple but powerful.

4 WHO DO YOU LOVE

There are 'Ooh-oh-woah-ohs' galore here. And we're starting to detect a lyrical theme to the album as well. It's all about girls.

5 A SONG ABOUT GIRLS

See? 'All of the girls in the world who inspire me... this is your song', declares our Chad.

6 SHOW OFF

This driving riff is the closest Chad comes to pop-punk on the whole album. Getting syrupy now, though.

7 RECURRING DREAMS

The Weezer comparison comes out again as Chad exercises his surprisingly strident vocals. He didn't sound like this when he was screaming with Shai Hulud.

8 FROM THE START

'Cupid shot an arrow to my heart', he reveals. The '50s cliché bucket is starting to feel less full than it was...

9 BAD MOOD

More handclap beats and easy melodies, but the album's now starting to labour like a steam train on a steep hill.

10 AIN'T BEEN HAPPY WITH ME

Chad introduces a bit of a country twang to a wistful pop tune. Meh.

11 MISERABLE WITHOUT YOU

The album continues its emotional dive as Chad pleads with his loved one in a 'Please don't dump me' song.

12 WEARING YOUR RING

Everything's all right in the end, though, as Chad finishes with a reconciliatory slow-dance of a number. Now get back to your day job for Reading & Leeds and take us back to the future.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF...



53%
Songs
about
girls



20%
Harmonised
backing vocals



18%
Quiffs



9%
Pop-punk

WORDS: PAUL TRAYERS

VERSUS THE WORLD

HOMESICK/ROADSICK (KUNG FU)

KKK

POP-PUNKS PARTY LIKE IT'S 1999 ALL OVER AGAIN (WHY NOT?)



■ FEATURING FORMER and current members of The Ataris and Lagwagon, VTW have something of a middling pop-punk pedigree. Musically they hark back to the late-'90s, when SoCal was the centre of the melodicore universe and their old bands were relatively big noises. It goes from the rasping and emotional opener, 'The Santa Margarita', a tribute to No Use For A Name's late frontman, Tony Sly, to the speedy drum-fuelled sugar rush of 'Our Song'. There's an Alkaline Trio sheen of darkness to songs like 'Detox/Retro', but on the whole this is amiably infectious stuff.

DOWNLOAD: The Santa Margarita, A Storm Like Me.

FOR FANS OF: The Ataris, Alkaline Trio.
PAUL TRAVERS

CRADLE OF FILTH

HAMMER OF THE WITCHES

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

KKKK

SUFFOLK BLACK METALLERS GET BACK ON THEIR BROOMSTICKS



■ BACK IN the day, Cradle Of Filth were the scariest band in Britain. Or, depending on your viewpoint, the silliest. When Dani Filth squeals 'Unleash the fucking curse!' on the title-track of this new album, you'll certainly be tempted towards the latter opinion. But, ignoring the standard whiff of panto, Hammer Of The Witches finds these fiends in fine fettle. This ripping selection of tunes invokes Seventh Son-era Maiden and arcane thrashers Sabbath as often as black metal, underlining Cradle's status as a genuine, if slightly silly, British institution.

DOWNLOAD: Blackest Magick In Practice, Yours Immortally.

FOR FANS OF: Iron Maiden, Dimmu Borgir, Behemoth.

OLLY THOMAS

THE FIEND

GREED POWER RELIGION WAR

(CANDLELIGHT RECORDS)

KKKK

STEP ASIDE, HULK, THE FIEND ARE BACK AND THEY ARE PISSED AS ALL HELL



■ WHEN MOST people say they're angry, they don't really know what they're talking about. On the other hand, Northern hardcore veterans The Fiend understand the kind of anger that burns deep in your bones, and their second album sounds like it was hammered in a forge of righteous fury. For over 47 minutes of relentless



LYRIC OF THE WEEK

The sun's here and Between The Buried And Me have some top tips for your summer holidays! "Travel through a string of tears", they explain. "Screams crash down like waves / Flushing my mind of a new world". Nice one, gents, we'll bring the sun-tan cream!

BAND:

Between The Buried And Me

SONG:

The Coma Machine
ALBUM: Coma Ecliptic



SLEEVE OF THE WEEK

What's that? An army of cyborgs taking over a snow-covered New York as a frostbitten Jack-o-lantern watches on? Of course! What else would you expect from Teutonic power metal lunatics Halloween?! Someone pass us our gloves and woolly hat!



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

JUGGERNAUT, FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES Frankie is back and giving it the big one in a video which features a crazed Watford Wolf trying to smash his way out of a glass prison with the aid of a very sad-looking guitar. Sure.

hardcore punk and molten metal, vocalist Bri Hutchinson spits vitriol so corrosive it could burn a hole in your floor, as he calls out systems of oppression. One of the angriest albums you'll hear this year:

DOWNLOAD: Payback.

FOR FANS OF: Slayer, Discharge.
JAMES MACKINNON

RUDE AWAKENING

COLLATERAL DAMAGE (BRIDGE NINE)

KKK

TEN NUGGETS OF SHORT, SWEET, SPIN-KICKING BOOT-TO-THE-FACE-CORE



■ GIVEN THAT only two tracks on Collateral Damage break the two-minute mark, it's fair to say Rude Awakening aren't trying to take their hardcore in a progressive

direction. In fact, there's pretty much nothing about the record that breaks from hardcore tradition. But, their capacity for penning blunt, violent mosh-anthems makes this no bad thing at all. Masters of the stomping groove, the likes of Dragging The Anchor and Fence Walker are pure agro, and the more D-beat-oriented tracks are even better. The perfect accompaniment to picking fights with people bigger than you.

DOWNLOAD: Burning At Both Ends.

FOR FANS OF: Terror, Blacklisted.

DAN SLESSOR

SILVERCHAIR

FROGSTOMP 20TH ANNIVERSARY

(SONY MUSIC)

KKKK

THE ALBUM THAT KICKSTARTED THE TEENAGE AUSSIE HEROES' LEAP TO STARDOM



■ LONG BEFORE the baroque'n'roll of Silverchair's 2002 album, Diorama, or the strangeness of Daniel Johns' solo efforts, there was Frogstomp. While

this 20th anniversary will be cause for an age-conscious weep for some; for others it's the door to a discography whose basic-to-bombastic musical arc gives Muse a run for their money. Though not Silverchair's best album - hello, Neon Ballroom - Frogstomp still sounds accomplished, despite its authors being 15 at the time. Now, with a little remastered sheen, the bass of opener 'Israel's Son' and

Daniel's throaty lament on 'Pure Massacre' snarl more than ever. You'd have to be utterly, utterly mad not to revisit this souped-up classic.

DOWNLOAD: Tomorrow.

FOR FANS OF: Stone Temple Pilots, Incubus, Alice In Chains.

JAMES HICKIE

EVA PLAYS DEAD

SOUNDS OF THE WRITTEN WORD

(SOUND-HUB RECORDS)

KK

YOUNG BRIT POP-ROCKERS FAIL TO CRANK UP THE EXCITEMENT ON EP



■ CLASSIC ROCK is about nothing if not swagger and fun - and on that note pop-rockers Eva Plays Dead certainly tick a box. Sadly, there's nothing surprising on

Sounds Of The Written Word. It's not that these tracks are without big hooks - just check out the monster of a riff on 'Wonderland' - and frontwoman Tiggy's vocals pack a sultry yet strong punch when required to. Sadly, though, lyrics are cliché and when strung together, narratives are confused or weak. There are still too many boxes left unchecked: someone had better tell Eva to stop muckin' the hell about.

DOWNLOAD: Live Again.

FOR FANS OF: Heaven's Basement, Halestorm, Marmozets.

HANNAH EWENS

DAN ANDRIANO IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM

PARTY ADJACENT (XTRA MILE)

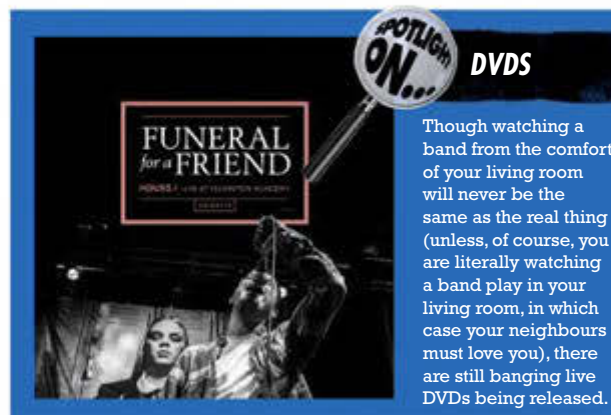
KKK

IT SEEMS THAT ALKALINE TRIO SOLO ALBUMS ARE A LOT LIKE BUSES THESE DAYS



■ JUST ONE month after bandmate Matt Skiba dropped his most recent offering, Alkaline Trio's bassist, Dan Andriano, steps up with a bouncier-than-a-trampoline-made-

of-Slinkys new album to remind us just what he is capable of. Here, under the guise of The Emergency Room, the Chicagoan offers something for absolutely everyone: pop anthems, a couple of Trio-alikes, some troubadour belters and a curveball in closer



Take **FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND'S HOURS - LIVE AT ISLINGTON ACADEMY** (KKKK), for example, in which South Wales' post-hardcore heroes play their 2005 classic in its





1 NORTHLANE - RA

The Aussie earth-rockers are back with a song that is, ironically, named after the Egyptian sun god. Ra-dical

2 BITERS - ELECTRIC BLOOD

Biters' frontman Tuk Smith's jeans are nearly as tight as this garage-rock belter. That's tiiiight.

3 STRAY FROM THE PATH - D.I.E.P.I.G

No-nonsense rap-core straight outta Long Island extolling the virtues of a lovely bacon butty... we think...

4 MILLION DEAD - HARMONY NO HARMONY

Frank Turner's former band kick out the jams on this blazing reissue. No harmony indeed.

5 REFUSED - ELEKTRA

The Swedish boys are back in the game and NOOOOTHING'S CHAAANGED!

Snake Bites, that shows Andriano has got a bright future if the Trio ever close up shop.
DOWNLOAD: Fire Pit.
FOR FANS OF: Alkaline Trio, Frank Turner.
WILLIAM HUGHES

JETTBLACK

DISGUISES (CHERRY RED)

KKK

MORE JETT-PROPELLED ROCK'N'ROLL FROM THE BRIT UNDERDOGS



■ ALTHOUGH NEVER likely to deviate far from their iron-pumping heavy rock, Jettblack have certainly developed as songwriters of late. That much is clear from

Poison Rain's trippy intro and snaking melody. This isn't to say the Londoners have become less ripped overnight – they still rock out repeatedly, on tracks like Explode and Kick In The Teeth. The latter are not remotely challenging, and you might argue that they shouldn't be, but this third album nevertheless steers these perennial underachievers in appealing new directions.

DOWNLOAD: Poison Rain.

FOR FANS OF: Whitesnake, Alter Bridge.

STEVE BEEBEE

JUNGLE ROT

ORDER SHALL PREVAIL (VICTORY RECORDS)

KKK

BLACK-BLOODED WISCONSIN BRUTALISTS DEFIANTLY REFUSE TO LIGHTEN UP



■ LIVE FLESH, decaying off the bone. It's hardly teatime imagery. But when Jungle Rot named themselves after an infamous type of infantry maiming tropical putrefaction, palatability wasn't exactly a priority. Two decades down the line, little's changed. Lashing out against totalitarian police brutality, Order Shall Prevail courts political relevance, but it's bludgeoned into the Wisconsin maniacs' death-metal stomp. Blood Revenge shreds like a C4 amputation and by the time Max Cavallera pops up for implacable chest-thumper Fight Where You Stand, shellshock'll seem a frighteningly tangible possibility. You can't stop the rot.

DOWNLOAD: Paralyzed Prey, Blood Revenge, Trench Tactics.

FOR FANS OF: Sodom, Sepultura.

SAM LAW



all over these garage-rock riffs as they're punched into your ears from the French capital. But if you want more of a narrative story arc than a live experience,

why not go for DEATH ANGEL'S A THRASHUMENTARY (KKK). It tells the tale of the Bay Area thrashers, from young kids sneaking into early Metallica gigs to underground heroes, and it's a cracking watch for any thrashers who might want something of a history of the legendary San Francisco thrash scene itself.

Megadeth

KILLING IS MY BUSINESS... AND BUSINESS IS GOOD

(COMBAT, 1985)



MEGADAVE AND CO PROVE THAT LIVING WELL IS THE BEST REVENGE ON A DEBUT ALBUM THAT CHANGED THE FACE OF THRASH FOREVER



THERE'S A famous saying that tells us: don't get mad, get even. But in Dave Mustaine's case, the two went hand-in-hand. His 1983 dismissal from Metallica for substance abuse conjured up the red mist like nothing he'd ever known. This was personal. And the clock was ticking – he needed to get back out there and show he could play faster, heavier and more superior metal to everyone else around. Especially his ex-bandmates. In the months that followed, he formed Megadeth with bassist David Ellefson and began writing songs for their debut album. When Killing... arrived some two years later, it did exactly as intended: raising the bar for thrash metal, separating the men from the boys. It was time to show everyone that they'd sacked the wrong guy.

IT'S A VERY PISSED-OFF RECORD IN MANY WAYS. WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH YOUR MIND AS YOU WROTE THESE SONGS?

DAVE MUSTAINE (VOCALS/GUITAR):

"Yeah I was pissed off. When you're part of something [like Metallica] and you get asked to leave, you have two ways to react. Either accept it or don't accept it. And I think part of the acceptance is having an explanation of why you're being asked to leave. It wasn't explained in any way, shape or form why I was being asked to leave. If the guys said, 'You drink too much, you need to go to AA,' I'd probably have told them I'm leaving (laughs)! But I didn't know why. When you cast someone out for a replacement, the person removed ends up getting demeaned. We have made our bones, we're all friends now."

TELL US MORE ABOUT THE INFAMOUS COVER ART FUCK-UP...

"You mean the plastic skull head and tinfoil? You had to go there (laughs)! I wasn't happy with it. I had this drawing which I thought

would have been cool. It was hand-drawn and had this crudeness to it that I felt was really edgy for the time. There were crossbones, a skull, chains, sickles and at the bottom I had two extra crosses put in there. When we submitted it to the label, that was the end of it. But you have to remember these are the people that also told me to get a day job. We called them up on the road when we didn't have any money, one guy said he'd kneecap me, another said he'd wrestle me!"

AND YOU HAD TO PRODUCE THE ALBUM YOURSELVES BECAUSE YOU BLEW YOUR BUDGET ON OODLES OF DRUGS AND LASHINGS OF BOOZE?

"The budget definitely got blown, no pun intended, and not just by me (laughs). We had a guy who was managing us at the time that was killed by his brother with a butter knife in a fight over a baloney sandwich. That should give you an idea of how wacky our camp was at the time! Someone broke it to me that we'd spent \$4,000 on coke, heroin and hamburger meat. I was like, 'Fuck, I hope the hamburgers are good!' That was our introduction to the music business."

IT WAS YOUR FIRST ALBUM WITH DAVID ELLEFSON. WHAT WERE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF HIM?

"I was hungover and he was practising the bassline from Running With The Devil. That one note, right? So, I open the window and say, 'Shut the fuck up!' He started again, so I had to launch a flowerpot at his air conditioner. There's a knock on the door, I think I scared him and his friend. I slammed the door on them, they knocked again and I was ready to stab them, but they were asking if I was old enough to buy beer. Then I was like, 'Now you're talking!' Junior had his credit card and thus started the friendship!"



"WE SPENT \$4,000 ON COKE AND HEROIN"

DAVE MUSTAINE

WORDS: NICK RUSSELL

WORDS: AMIT SHARMA

full, unfettered glory. A decade on, songs like the ever-brilliant Streetcar have been honed to muscular perfection, and seeing the band explode into it here is a treat.

For those wanting something a bit sleazier, there's always BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB'S LIVE IN PARIS (KKK). You can almost feel the inch-thick grease sliming

K!LOBBER

MUST HAVES

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!



What are you going to do when the Daleks invade? If you know, you'll be a champ at this. But don't cheat and keep regenerating if you start losing.
£21.99 Forbiddenplanet.com



Look carefully at this Frank Iero shirt. It looks like a Viking ship with a telephone pole on it. You'll never un-see that now.
£12.49 Thisispulp.co.uk



Where to keep your cash? Well, with this Avenged wallet, wall-it's almost easy...
£8.99 Grindstore.com



Twenty One Pilots are missing a trick not making multi-person flight suits. This shirt'll have to do, then.
£13.50 Plastichead.com



I'm made of wax, Larry, what are you made of? Cotton, would be this ADTR bag's answer.
£13.50 Grindstore.co.uk



This is a shirt. But it'll double up as a HU-inspired mask if you pull it over your face.
£13.50 Plastichead.com



Pick a pick, any pick. No, it's not magic... Unless something miraculous happens when you take one of these in your hand like Angus Young, and start playing the riff from Whole Lotta Rosie, and you feel the world disappear as it's engulfed in volume and power and you start flyin... What? It could happen. Maybe.
£7.99 Amazon.co.uk



Show which side of the '90s Sega/Nintendo wars you're on with this. Coins not included.
£17.99 Forbiddenplanet.com



Feeling licky, punk? Hayley is. Either that or she's just tried Marmite for the first time.
£14.99 Grindstore.com



The next time someone tells you to belt up about BMTH, you can! And your strides won't fall down, either.
£18.99 Grindstore.com



Mike Shinoda's Fort Minor are back! So, obviously you'll want to celebrate with a new jumper.
\$60 (£38.25) Linkinpark.com



Behemoth's last album was called The Satanist. A Behemoth inverted-cross is, therefore, a no-brainer.
£14.15 Behemoth-store.com



We've never fallen out of a shirt. This one looks like it can also contain a person perfectly well.
£13.50 Plastichead.com



We don't recall there being a Tonight Alive tour in 1974, but this shirt's proof (ish) there was one.
£14.99 Grindstore.com



Summer's here. Which, being the UK, means you'll need a warm top. Job done.
£31 Plastichead.com



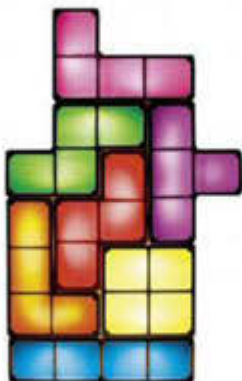
Pre-order the new Ghost album and get loads of extras. And you won't have to sell your soul – they take pounds!
£36.90 Kingsroadmerch.com



They're the world's best burger-themed Sabbath tribute band. Of course you want their shirt.
£13.08 Etsy.com



Avoid getting a dark side on your burger with these killer lightsaber tongs. No need to use the forks while barbecuing ever again.
£19.67 Amazon.co.uk



Technically this Tetris lamp would vanish, being a solid block at the bottom. Still rad, though.
£24.99 Findmeagift.co.uk



This Deftones shirt is more red and blue horse than White Pony. It's a liar, but a cool liar.
\$30 (£19.12) Merchdirect.com

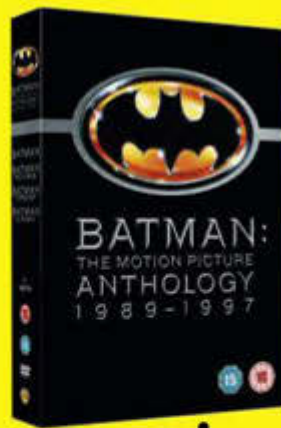


THE NEW BATMAN GAME, ARKHAM KNIGHT, IS OUT NOW! GO BATTY WITH THIS TOTALLY 'KAPOW!' STUFF!

Obviously you don't want to walk around Gotham City wearing this. You'll attract the attention of the Caped Crusader and you'll end up with a black eye. Wear it in London or Manchester, though, and you'll be absolutely groovy.
£20 Lastexittonowhere.com



Arkham Asylum was built many years ago by Dr Amadeus Arkham, who ended up there himself after attacking his employees with an axe. Wouldn't have happened if he'd had this Lego set of the place. He could have just clicked it all together.
£222 Planetforce.com



Fire the Bat Signal into the sky with this bad boy. Although don't turn it on during EastEnders. He won't like that.
£4.99 Forbiddenplanet.com



Got a spare weekend? Watch these back to back. Marvel at how, uh, brilliant Arnie is as Mistuh Freeze.
£9.99 Amazon.co.uk



Wish you worked for Wayne Enterprises? Yeah you do. Pretend you're some sort of company big-shot with this corporate mug.
£6.99 Forbiddenplanet.com

Harley Quinn is the most badass character in Arkham Knight. Batman would be if he had this model's hair.
£42 Hobbylink.com

GIGS

DON'T MISS

ALKALINE TRIO

AFTER FILLING THE TOM DELONGE-SIZED HOLE IN BLINK-182, MATT SKIBA RETURNS TO HIS DAY JOB, FOR A STINT WITH PUNK LEGENDS NOFX...



HAVING BEEN BUSY WITH BOTH BLINK-182 AND THE SEKRETS, DOES HITTING THE ROAD WITH ALKALINE TRIO FEEL A BIT LIKE

COMING HOME?

MATT SKIBA (VOCALS/GUITAR): "Y'know, it kinda does. Alkaline Trio is what's really made it possible for me to even do these other projects outside of that band, and I guess it will always be my first love. But I've been friends with the guys in The Secrets for a long time, so that feels like a second home, and Travis [Barker, drums] and Mark [Hoppus, bass and vocals] in blink are really good friends of mine and I have been having nothing but a total blast playing with them, so *that* feels like home, too."

YOU RECENTLY DID A U.S. RUN WHERE YOU PLAYED ALL EIGHT ALKALINE TRIO RECORDS OVER FOUR NIGHTS IN DIFFERENT CITIES – ANY CHANCE YOU'LL BE PLAYING WHOLE RECORDS OVER HERE?

"We're actually figuring that out right now, and I can't say for sure yet. We had a really good time doing all those shows, but let me tell you, it was *exhausting*! We had to learn 90-something songs, and by the end of it my brain turned to oatmeal! That's not to say I didn't have an incredible time, because the shows were amazing. It was really fun, but two weeks after getting home and it

still felt my brain was somewhere in outer space, and, honestly, I'm kinda glad we don't have to do that again right now (laughs)!"

WITH SO MANY ALBUMS, IS IT HARD TO PICK A SET LIST?

"Well, we try to change things up a bit, and there are crowd-favourites we'll try to keep in the set, but having done those shows and now being in a position where we know how to play every single

"WE DON'T TAKE OURSELVES VERY SERIOUSLY!"

MATT SKIBA

song we have, it's going to be a lot of fun because we really can pull out anything we want. We don't like getting to the point where we ever feel like we're on autopilot, which can easily happen if you're not careful, but we're definitely going to be switching things up and keeping things fresh for the people coming to the shows."

THERE'S ALSO A LOT OF LOVE FOR THE MOVIE THIS IS SPINAL TAP ON YOUR

INSTAGRAM – WHAT WOULD AN ALKALINE TRIO TOUR DOCUMENTARY BE LIKE?

"Exactly like *This Is Spinal Tap*, minus the herpes. We don't take ourselves very seriously, you'll never find someone complaining about sandwiches or whatever, but that film is so close to life and the stupid shit you experience on the road. I'm very thankful to be in a band and have a crew where we're all friends and family, and we all make each other laugh all the time, we make fun of ourselves, because it's rock'n'roll, and if you're not having fun, you're in the wrong job."

WHAT STANDS OUT IN YOUR MEMORY AS YOUR FUNNIEST SPINAL TAP MOMENT?

"We were in Japan, playing Summer Sonic, and we couldn't find the stage. The site is *immense*, it has to be at least a couple of square miles, and they had converted this big conference centre into a backstage area and each band had this cubicle area of their own. Before we failed to find our stage, it took us 20 minutes to get out of that damn building! We somehow kept walking right back into the same room we had walked out of like a minute earlier. Cedric [Bixler-Zavala] from The Mars Volta had clearly seen us doing this and at one point yelled, 'Hello, Cleveland!' at us, which was *perfect*!"

DATES: O2 Academy Leeds July 2 – 3, London O2 Academy Brixton July 4 – 5. With: NOFX, Lagwagon, Gnarwolves (July 4 only).

YOUR WEEK!



Defeater: deep into their third hour of waiting for a bus

KERRANG! DAY JULY 1

DUBLIN AC/DC (Aviva Stadium)
MILTON KEYNES Kobra And The Lotus (The Craufurd Arms)

THURSDAY JULY 2

BRIGHTON Six Time Champion, Homebound (Hope & Ruin)
GLASGOW The Catharsis (Audio)
LEEDS NOFX, Alkaline Trio, Lagwagon (O2 Academy Leeds)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Korn

We're quite surprised there are no bagpipes on this rider. Pizza? Are they a pop-punk band at heart? Check out the nu-metallars' checklist...

Korn

6-pack of Coke
 6-pack of Diet Coke
 6-pack of 7UP
 1 case of sparkling water/San Pellegrino/Perrier
 12 bottles of Gatorade, 0.5l
 2 bottles of OJ, 0.5l
 48 bottles of still water, 0.5l
 12 bottles of good-quality beer
 2 bottles of good-quality red wine
 2 bottles of good-quality white wine
 1 bottle of gin, Hendrick's only
 1 bottle of gin, Monkey 47 only
 6 bottles of Fever-Tree tonic water
 12 cans of Red Bull
 6 cans of sugar-free Red Bull
 1 loaf of wheat bread
 1 loaf of Ezekiel 4:9 cinnamon raisin bread
 1 small deli tray with meats and cheese, all natural
 1 jar of mayo
 1 jar of tomato ketchup
 1 jar of mustard
 1 jar of queso dip
 1 tub of fresh salsa, medium
 1 bag of tortilla chips
 1 bag of nacho cheese Doritos
 1 bag of Lay's BBQ chips
 Selection of organic fruit and veg
 4 large pre-sliced pepperoni pizza
 4 large pre-sliced cheese pizza
 2 chicken Caesar salads
 2 chicken Caesar salads w/spinach
 10 Subway sandwiches
 CLEAN ICE CUBES

LONDON Kobra And The Lotus (Boston Music Rooms, Tufnell Park)

MANCHESTER Bleed From Within (Academy 3)

FRIDAY JULY 3

CORBY Six Time Champion (Ex-Servicemen's Club)
LEEDS NOFX, Alkaline Trio, Lagwagon, Gnarwolves (O2 Academy Leeds)
MANCHESTER Divide (Ruby Lounge)
MILTON KEYNES Fell Out Boy (Craufurd Arms)
NOTTINGHAM The Catharsis (Chameleon)
SOUTHAMPTON Kobra And The Lotus (Firehouse)

SATURDAY JULY 4

BRIDGWATER Divide, Silhouettes (Tiki Beach)
BRISTOL Six Time Champion, Homebound (Stag & Hounds)
LONDON The Catharsis (Barfly, Camden)
LONDON NOFX / Alkaline Trio, Lagwagon, Gnarwolves (O2 Academy Brixton)
LONDON AC/DC (Wembley Stadium)
NOTTINGHAM Fell Out Boy (Rock City)

SUNDAY JULY 5

CARDIFF Six Time Champion, Homebound (Undertone)
CARDIFF The Catharsis (Fuel Rock Bar)
LIVERPOOL Divide, Silhouettes (Krazyhouse)
LONDON NOFX, Alkaline Trio, Lagwagon (O2 Academy Brixton)
NORWICH Biohazard (Owl Sanctuary)
PRESTON Fell Out Boy (Rockprest)

MONDAY JULY 6

BRIGHTON Prawn, Hindsights, Brighter (Hope & Ruin)
LIVERPOOL Six Time Champion, Homebound (Maguire's Pizza Bar)
LONDON Strung Out, Versus The World (Underworld, Camden)
LONDON Versus The World (Underworld, Camden)
NEWCASTLE Biohazard (Think Tank?)
SHEFFIELD Divide, Silhouettes (Corporation)

TUESDAY JULY 7

BRISTOL Biohazard (Fleece)
BRISTOL Defeater (Marble Factory)
DERBY Divide, Silhouettes (Vic Inn)
MANCHESTER Six Time Champion, Homebound (Eagle)
MANCHESTER Strung Out, Versus The World (Ruby Lounge)
NORWICH Prawn, Hindsights, Brighter (Owl Sanctuary)

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY



ASHESTOANGELS: FUNERAL SONGS YOUTUBE

Don't you worry, New Grave's rising stars haven't carked it just yet. Rather, Funeral Songs sees Crilly and co(rpse) give us a history of their band via this ghoulish documentary.



ALL TIME LOW: KERRANG! MEETS ALL TIME LOW KERRANG! TV -

JULY 1, 8PM

After winning Best International Band and Best Event at this year's Relentless Kerrang! Awards, Kerrang! TV caught up with the All Time Low dudes to get a run down of their greatest hits. Expect some hilarious insights into their videos. And possibly some bragging.



IRON MAIDEN: ROCK IN RIO 2001

SKY ARTS - JULY 2, 10AM

They're coming back with a new album, but sadly Iron Maiden won't be touring this year. Now's the perfect time, then, to watch them perform to 250,000 people in South America during this classic set. "Screeeeeam for me, living room!"

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: THERAPY?, ELECTRIC BALLROOM, LONDON, 1996

AFTER GOING TO HIS FIRST-EVER GIG WITH HIS OLDER BROTHER, GUSTAV WOOD REQUIRED SOME MUCH NEEDED THERAPY?



GUSTAV WOOD, YOUNG GUNS

"My head tells me this was on the Troublegum tour, but if that came out in

'94, it had to be a couple of years later, and even then I was really too young to be going to the show but my brother took me and I managed to get in. Of course I thought it was the best thing ever, it was brilliant. I really wasn't a Therapy? fan beforehand, they were more my brother's band, I didn't know the hits or anything but that didn't really matter.

"I remember walking in to the venue and really feeling quite intimidated by all of these people crammed in there, because I was quite a shy young teenager and it was all a bit intense. However, that didn't stop me falling in love with it all, the smell, the heat coming off all of those people, it was such a unique experience that opened my eyes, and it captured my imagination completely. I think the thing that struck me most was that it

was just so fucking loud! There was just nothing that could have prepared me for it, and though aggressive isn't really the right word, it was just so full-on - it was a total assault on the senses, and it wasn't just the band, it was everyone going mental. I had seen stuff like that on my brother's videos of bands he loved, but that can't ever really capture what it's like to be in the thick of it. That said, I got nowhere near the mosh - I was at the back, shitting myself. Turning into a moshing, stage-diving freak would come later!

"At the time of that show, being in a band at all was beyond the realms of anything I imagined being possible in my life, and about four years ago we actually played a festival in Vienna with Therapy? and I remember really liking the kind of cyclical nature of life. I was stood there looking at the first band I ever saw and then sharing the stage with them, and that was a great feeling."



THERAPY?

GENERAL ADMISSION



ISLE OF WIGHT

WANNA KNOW ALL THE GIG HOTSPOTS ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT? READ THIS WAY...



**HANNAH EWENS,
KERRANG!
WRITER**

WHAT ARE THE PROS AND CONS OF BEING IN A BAND THERE?
Well, you're on an island for starters! The venues are all small and there are fewer people to reach – not to mention loads of oldies who probably aren't going to be that into your new hardcore band. Public transport is rubbish, so ideally you'll need a car to get to and from gigs and practice. On the plus side, less competition means it's easy to make a good name for yourself. You're also only a boat ride from **Southampton** and **Portsmouth** – both with strong rock scenes and infamous venues. Island-based members of **New Grave Dead!** linked up with others from Southampton for their band, which is pretty normal. Get saving for that boat fare...

WHICH VENUES SHOULD BANDS BE AIMING TO PLAY?
All the great venues are concentrated in two towns: **Ryde** and the Island's capital, **Newport**. Definitely get booked at **The Wight Rock Bar**. It's a microvenue (i.e. flippin' miniscule!), but the owners are active supporters of live music. **The King Lud** has an open-mic night every week that's always packed. **Coburgs** is also great, particularly for punk and ska with rock gigs happening on Fridays.

WHERE ARE THE BEST PLACES FOR MUSICIANS TO HANG OUT?
The Original Phil's Diner in Newport, where you can try and inevitably fail the famous burger challenge, or **The Blacksheep**



Bar just a few doors up from **Coburgs** (all Islanders know that's where all the cool kids hang out). When not stuffing your face or stumbling down the high street, go and use the rehearsal rooms at **Studio 5a**. It's also a favourite recording studio among locals and provides all the equipment for you.

ARE THERE ANY GOOD WAYS TO SPREAD THE WORD LOCALLY?
Everyone on the IOW is tuned in to **Isle of Wight Radio**. Hit up head of Island music **Glyn Taylor** to get played on his Sunday night Live and Local show. **The Isle of Wight County Press** is on every coffee table, so get onto them early about your show or get a mate to take photos at the latest gig and start plugging for coverage. Then you'll know nearly 28,500 people are reading about how great you are while sat on the loo. Easy!

HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE ISLE OF WIGHT FEST AND BESTIVAL TO THE MUSIC SCENE?
Imperative. The whole island and its music scene come to life over the summer. At the **IOW Festival** there's always a Platform One stage specifically for young islanders, while local musicians play across most stages on offer. There's an annual **Bestival Bands** and DJs competition judged by **Bestival** curator and **BBC Radio 6 DJ Rob da Bank** which allows plenty of locals to get a shot at big festival gigs.



"I asked for 20 balloons, not one 20 balloon..."

If you're over nine-feet put your hands up!

WORDS: HANNAH EWENS

ALoud.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

BOOKING NOW

2000TREES FESTIVAL

Line-Up: Alkaline Trio, Deaf Havana, Kerbdog, Pulled Apart By Horses, Arcane Roots, Rob Lynch, Big Sixes, Allusondrugs, Nothing But Thieves, &U&I, Solemn Sun, Milk Teeth, Bury Tomorrow, Young Guns, Defeater, The Skints, Fort Hope, Boston Manor, Sam Russon, The Lion & The Wolf, Hacktivist, ROAM, Boy Jumps Ship, Cheltenham Upcote Farm July 9 – 11.

AC/DC

Dublin Aviva Stadium July 1, London Wembley Stadium 4.

AGAINST THE CURRENT

London O2 Academy Islington October 7, Glasgow King Tut's 8, Birmingham Asylum 9, Manchester Club Academy 10, Southampton Joiners 11, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 12.

ALL TIME LOW

Edinburgh Corn Exchange August 25, Support: Neck Deep.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

London Brooklyn Bowl August 27.

ANTI-FLAG

Nottingham Rescue Rooms October 20, Birmingham Institute 21, Sheffield Corporation 22, Newcastle Riverside 23, Glasgow Classic Grand 24, Manchester Sound Control 25.

ASHESTOANGELS

Plymouth Exile July 17, Manchester Retro Bar 18, Glasgow Shadow Sounds Live 19, Newcastle Globe 20, Leeds Santiago 21, Norwich B2 22, Sheffield South Sea Live 23, Huddersfield Parish 24, Leicester Shed 25, Southampton Joiners 26, London Camden Barfly 27, Bristol Thekla 28.

ASKING ALEXANDRIA

O2 Academy Leicester October 20, O2 Academy Newcastle 21, Lincoln Engine Shed 22, O2 Academy Sheffield 27, Manchester Ritz 28, Support: Memphis May Fire, August Burns Red, In Hearts Wake.

ATREYU

Colchester Arts Centre August 27, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 28.

BAD RELIGION

Manchester Ritz August 3, O2 Academy Leeds 4, Birmingham Institute 5, O2 Academy Bristol 7, London Kentish Town Forum 8, Support: Snuff.

BLACKBERRY SMOKE

O2 Academy Birmingham November 3, O2 Academy Sheffield 4, O2 Academy Newcastle 5, Manchester Academy 6, London Kentish Town Forum 8.

BLACK STONE CHERRY

Cardiff Motorpoint Arena January 28, 2016, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 29, Liverpool Echo Arena 30, Glasgow SSE Hydro February 1, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 2, London SSE Arena Wembley 4, Leeds First Direct Arena 4, Manchester Arena 6, Support: Shinedown, Halestorm, Highly Suspect.

BLITZ KIDS

Bristol Exchange July 27, Birmingham Rainbow 28, Sheffield Corporation 29, Guildford Boilerroom 30, Leeds Key Club 31, Manchester Sound Control August 2, Support: Verses, Monarks (only July 27 and August 2), Creeper (not July 27 and August 2), Hindsights.

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR

Line-up: Black Label Society, Napalm Death, Wolf, Trivium, Rob Zombie, Within Temptation, Opeti, Ihsahn, Cannibal Corpse, Sepultura, Death DTA, Dark Angel, Nuclear Assault, Orange Goblin, 1349, Armored Saint, Overkill, Ensiferum, Belphegor, Sabaton, Agalloch, Enslaved, Korpiklaani, Pro-pain, Delain, Fleshgod Apocalypse, Battalion, Mordred, Destrage, Godflesh, Conan, Bast, Planet Of Zeus, Dirty Sanchez, Pritchard vs Dainton, Ethereal, Lawnmower Deth, Oaf, Saille, Amorphis, Reign Of Fury, Metaprisms, Desecration, Red Rum, I Am I, Hang The Bastard, Re-Animator, Fire Red Empress, Hexis, Jettblack, Dead Label, Ne Obliviscaris, Silas, Burgerkill, Jasad, Pist, Ol Drake, Triaxis, Derbyshire Catton Park August 6 – 9.

BRAND NEW

Manchester Albert Hall September 10, London Alexandra Palace 11, O2 Academy Sheffield 19, Middlesbrough Empire 20, Edinburgh Usher Hall 21, Dublin Vicar Street 22.

BREAKOUT FESTIVAL

Line-up: Sikth, Martyr, Defiled, Black Tongue, Dead Harts, TRC, Deaf Havana, We Are The Ocean, Blitz Kids, ZOAX, By Definition, Brighton Racecourse September 26.

BRITISH LION

Harlow Square July 29, Bristol Bierkeller 30, Cardiff Uni 31, Birmingham Rainbow Warehouse August 2, Chester Live Rooms 4, Lincoln Engine Shed 5, Manchester Club Academy 7, Newcastle Riverside 8, Edinburgh Studio 24 9, Aberdeen Lemon Tree 10, York Duchess 12, Blackburn King Georges Hall Windsor Suite 13, Doncaster Diamond Live Lounge 14, Grimsby Yardsbirds 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, Colchester Arts Centre 18, O2 Academy 2 Oxford 20, Plymouth Hub 21, Southampton 1865 22, Poole Mr Kyps 23, Norwich Waterfront 24, London O2 Islington Academy 26, Support: The Raven Age.

BRYAN ADAMS

London Radio 2 Live In Hyde Park September 13.

BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE

Belfast Ulster Hall September 28, Dublin Olympia 29, O2 Academy Bournemouth October 1, Reading Hexagon 2, Guildford G Live 3, Aylesbury Theatre 5, Stoke Victoria Hall 6, Lincoln Engine Shed 7, York Barbican 9, Aberdeen Music Hall 10, Dunfermline Alhambra 11, Middlesbrough Empire 13, Carlisle Sands 14, O2 Academy Leicester 16, Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion 17, Folkestone Cliff Hall 18, Swansea Brangwyn Hall 20, O2 Guildhall Southampton 21, Ipswich Regent Corn Exchange 22.

BUTSERFEST

Line-up: Don Broco, Hacktivist, The Qemists, The One Hundred, Cardinal Bay, Fathoms, Carcer City, Zoax, Lock And Key, Create To Inspire, Prolong The Agony, Lost Atlanta, VVking Angel, Hampshire Queen Elizabeth Country Park September 12.

CLUTCH

Dublin Olympia Theatre November 20, Belfast Linelight 21, O2 Academy Glasgow 23, Nottingham Rock City 24, O2 Academy Bristol 25, Manchester Ritz December 10, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 11, London Shepherd's Bush Empire 12.

DAMNATION FESTIVAL

Line-up: At The Gates, Leeds University Union November 7.

THE DARKNESS

Cambridge Corn Exchange December 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, O2 Academy Newcastle 4, O2 Academy Glasgow 5, O2 Academy Leeds 9, Manchester Academy 10, O2 Academy Birmingham 11, O2 Academy Bristol 13, O2 Guildhall Southampton 14, Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion 15, O2 Academy Bournemouth 17, O2 Academy Oxford 19, London Camden Roundhouse 20.

DEF LEPPARD / WHITESNAKE

Dublin 3 Arena December 6, Belfast Odyssey 7, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 9, Glasgow SSE Hydro 10, Birmingham Genting Arena 12, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 13, Manchester Arena 15, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 16, London SSE Arena Wembley 18, Sheffield Motorpoint Arena 19, Support: Black Star Riders.

DON BROCO

London O2 Academy Brixton December 13.

EAGLES OF DEATH METAL

Leeds Beckett University October 31, Norwich UEA November 1, O2 Academy Bristol 2, Southampton Engine Rooms 4, London Kentish Town Forum 5, Birmingham Institute 6, Manchester Ritz 7, O2 Academy Newcastle 9, O2 ABC Glasgow 11.

ENTER SHIKARI

O2 Academy Glasgow February 18, 2016, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 19, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 20, Bournemouth BIC 22, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 23, Manchester Victoria Warehouse 25, London Alexandra Palace 27, Support: The Wonder Years.

FALL OUT BOY

Leeds First Direct Arena October 3, Aberdeen AECC GE Oil & Gas Arena 4, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 6, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 7, Manchester Arena 9, Bournemouth International Centre 10, London SSE Arena Wembley 11 – 12.

FRANK TURNER & THE SLEEPING SOULS

Llandudno Venue Cymru November 5, O2 Guildhall Southampton 8, Falmouth Princess Pavilion 9, Glasgow Barrowland 13, Newcastle Uni 14, Nottingham Rock City 15, O2 Academy Birmingham 18, O2 Academy Sheffield 19, Bristol Colston Hall 21, Manchester Academy 23, London Alexandra Palace 26.

GHOSTFEST

Line-up: Hatebreed, Despised Icon, Turnstile, Rise Of The Northstar, Nasty, Astrodroid, Make Them Suffer, Slaughter To Prevail, Venom Prison, Emmure,

Oceano, Angel Du\$t, Oathbreaker, Desolated, Broken Teeth, Casey, Born Of Osiris, Martyr, Defiled, The Eyes Of A Traitor, Seafoal, Jonny Craig, Continents. Leeds University September 5, Bristol Motion 6.

HALESTORM

O2 Academy Liverpool August 17, London Camden KOKO 18.

HEVY FESTIVAL

Line up: Coheed And Cambria, Thrice, The Dillinger Escape Plan, Monuments Vales, Grader, Up River, OH-HMS, Collisions, Baby Godzilla, Black Tusk, The Colour Line, Continents, Creeper, Fathoms, Fort Hope, The Get Up Kids, Hacktivist, Touché Amoré, Wraiths, The Fall Of Troy, Judge, Ignite, A Wilhelm Scream, Teenage Bottle Rocket, Arcane Roots, Crooks, Broken Teeth, Hang The Bastard, Black Peaks, Blood Youth, Trash Boat, Youth Man, Press To Mecro, Protest The Hero, Sweet Jesus, As It Is, Betraying The Martyrs, Break Even, Chon, Endless Heights, God Damn, Landscapes, Milk Teeth, Protest, The Hero, Stick To Your Guns, Sweet Jesus, Waster, Fightstar, Horse The Band, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park August 14-15.

KORN

O2 Apollo Manchester July 15, London O2 Academy Brixton 16. Support: Snout.

LESS THAN JAKE

Brighton Concorde II July 12, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 28, Southend Chinnery's 29, Reading Sub89 30, Coventry Kasbah August 1, York Fibbers 4, London Brooklyn Bowl (with Anti Flag) 8, Bristol Motion 11, Southampton Engine Rooms 12, Winchester Boomtown Fair 14.

LOWER THAN ATLANTIS

Middlesbrough Empire December 7, Leeds Beckett S.U. 8, Nottingham Rock City 10, O2 Academy Bristol 11, Birmingham Institute 12, London Camden Roundhouse 14, Manchester Ritz 15.

MACMILLANFEST 2015

Line up: Fearless Vampire Killers, Evil Scarecrow, Glamour Of The Kill, The One Hundred and loads more! Nottingham various venues September 5.

MAKE A SCENE FESTIVAL

Line up: Don Broco, Betraying The Martyrs, Napoleon, Attention Thieves, Create To Inspire, Boston Manor, Waster, All At Sea, The City Is Ours, North Seasons, Black Nevada, Across All Oceans. Middlesbrough Venue August 15.

MARILYN MANSON

London Eventim Apollo November 19, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 21, O2 Academy Glasgow 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 23.

MÖTLEY CRÜE

Newcastle Metro Radio Arena November 2, Manchester Arena 3, Birmingham Genting Arena 4, London SSE Arena Wembley 6. Support: Alice Cooper.

NASS FESTIVAL

Line-up: Enter Shikari, Bath & West Showground, July 10-12.

NEGATIVE PLANE / CRAVEN IDOL / WITCHSorrow

London Black Heart July 16.

NICKELBACK

Sheffield Motorpoint Arena November 13, Glasgow SSE Hydro 14, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 16, Manchester Arena 17, Liverpool Echo Arena 19, Birmingham Genting Arena 21, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 22, London SSE Arena Wembley 24. Support: Monster Truck.

NIGHTWISH

London SSE Arena Wembley December 19. Support: Arch Enemy, Amorphis.

NOFX / ALKALINE TRIO

O2 Academy Leeds July 3, London O2 Academy Brixton 4-5. Support: Lagwagon, Gnarwolves.

NORTHLANE

Bristol Fleece October 4, Birmingham Asylum 5, Glasgow Classic Grand 6, Manchester Club Academy 7, London O2 Academy Islington 8, Southampton Talking Heads 9. Support: Volumes, The Acacia Strain, Hellions.

THE OFFSPRING

O2 Apollo Manchester August 25, London O2 Academy Brixton 26.

OPETH

London Palladium October 18.

ORANGE GOBLIN

Wolverhampton Slade Rooms December 3, Bristol Bierkeller 4, Norwich Waterfront 5, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 6, O2 Academy 2 Oxford 7, Colchester Arts Centre 8, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 10, Stoke Sugarmill 11, Leeds Key Club 12,

JUST ANNOUNCED

BITERS

London Jubilee Club September 25, Nottingham Rock City 26, Southampton Joiners 27, Bristol Thekla 28, Norwich Waterfront Studio 29, Leeds Key Club October 2, Glasgow Stereo 3, Newcastle Think Tank 5, London Borderline 6, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 7, Manchester Ruby Lounge 8, Sheffield Corporation 9.

BRUJERIA

Edinburgh Bannermans August 12, London Tufnell Park Dome 14.

CABIN BOY JUMPED SHIP

Norwich Owl Sanctuary July 30, Sheffield South Sea Live August 2, High Wycombe Phoenix 3, Newcastle Think Tank 4, Guildford Star Inn 5, Nottingham Maze 6, London Camden Underworld 7, Manchester Sound Control 8, Portsmouth Old Barn 10, Southampton Talking Heads 11, Leicester Shed 12, Swindon Vic 13, Hitchin Club 85 14. Support: Saint [the] Sinner.

COUNTERPARTS

Tunbridge Wells Forum October 9, London Camden Underworld 10, Manchester Sound Control 11, Glasgow Classic Grand 12, Birmingham Asylum 13, Southampton Talking Heads 14, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 15, Derby Venue 16, Leeds Key Club 17. Support: Senses Fail, Capsize.

EVERY TIME I DIE

Southampton Talking Heads November 6, Plymouth Underground 7, Bristol Fleece 8, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 9, Manchester Sound Control 11, Glasgow King Tuts 12, Aberdeen Tunnels 13, Newcastle Riverside 14, Sheffield Corporation 15, Birmingham Asylum 17, London Tufnell Park Dome 18, London Borderline 19, London Camden Underworld 20. Support: Superheaven, Muck.

HATEBREED

Reading Sub 89 September 4.

INME

Manchester Sound Control September 14, Glasgow Classic Grand 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, Birmingham Warehouse 17, London O2 Academy Islington 18.

LESS THAN JAKE / ANTI FLAG

Support added: Brawlers.

LIMP BIZKIT

London O2 Academy Brixton August 27.

THE RED PAINTINGS

Stoke Underground November 5, Manchester Sound Control 6, Glasgow Audio 7, Sheffield Corporation 8, Birmingham Rainbow 9, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 11, London Borderline 12, Barnstaple Factory 13, Bristol Exchange 14, Southampton Joiners 15.

REEL BIG FISH

Birmingham Library October 19, Stoke Sugarmill 20, O2 Academy Liverpool 21, Glasgow Garage 22, O2 Academy Newcastle 23, O2 Academy Leeds 24, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 25, Manchester Academy 11 26.

YOUNG GUNS

Lowestoft Aquarium October 16, Brighton Concorde II 17, Preston Ferret 20, Aberdeen Garage 22, Wakefield Warehouse 23 23, Milton Keynes MK 11 25, Southampton Engine Room 27, Southend Chinnery's 27, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 28, Barnstaple Factory 29, Exeter Lemon Grove 30, Perranporth Watering Hole 31.

JUDAS PRIEST

Bradford St. Georges Hall November 23, Glasgow Barrowland 24, Wolverhampton Civic Hall, O2 Apollo Manchester 28, Portsmouth Guildhall 30, London O2 Academy Brixton December 1. Support: Michael Schenker's Temple Of Rock.

O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 13, Glasgow King Tut's 15, Manchester Sound Control 16, London Camden Electric Ballroom 17.

PAPA ROACH / FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

London Wembley SSE Arena November 28. Support: Devil You Know, Eskimo Callboy.

PERIPHERY

Bristol Marble Factory November 13, Manchester Academy 11 14, Glasgow Garage 15, Library @ Birmingham Institute 16, Norwich Waterfront 17, London Camden KOKO 19.

THE PRODIGY

Nottingham Capital FM Arena November 24, Newcastle Upon Tyne Metro Radio Arena 26, Manchester Central 27, Sheffield Motorpoint Arena 28, Dublin 3 Arena 30, Belfast Odyssey Arena December 1, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 3, London SSE Arena Wembley 4-5. Support: Public Enemy.

READING & LEEDS

Line-up: Metallica, Pierce The Veil, Refused, Limp Bizkit, Alexisonfire, Manchester Orchestra, Royal Blood, All Time Low, American Football, Bring Me The Horizon, Mastodon, Neck Deep, Panic At The Disco, Slaves, We Are The Ocean, Marmozets, Cancer Bats, Imriero and the collaboration, Ghost B.C., Gojira, Modern Life Is War, The Menzingers, While She Sleeps, Frank Turner, Darla, Lonely The Brave, Radkey, Ash, Simple Plan, New Found Glory, Bury Tomorrow, The Gaslight Anthem, Against Me!, Feed The Rhino, Modestep, FIDLAR, BABYMETAL, Twin Atlantic, Twenty One Pilots, Nothing But Thieves, Modern Baseball, The Bots, The Smith Street Band, Atreyu, PVRIS, Black Peaks, The One Hundred, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Turbowolf, Moose Blood, Queen Kwong, Hawk Eyes, Single Mothers, As It Is, No Devotion, The Bronx, Baroness, God Damn, Mariachi El Bronx, Bo Ningen, Skinny Lister, Seether, Don Broco and more! Reading Richfield Avenue and Leeds Bramham Park August 28-30.

SABATON

Norwich UEA February 26, 2016, Manchester

Academy 27, O2 Academy Birmingham 28, O2 Guildhall Southampton 29, Aberdeen Music Hall March 2, Glasgow Barrowlands 3, Belfast Limelight 4, Dublin Vicar Street 6, Cardiff Tramshed 7, Bristol Motion 8. Support: Alestorm, Bloodbound.

SEPULTURA

Dublin Academy August 10, Chester Live Rooms 11, Manchester Club Academy November 17, Glasgow Classic Grand 18, Bristol Marble Factory 19, London Camden Electric Ballroom 20.

SKINDRED

O2 Guildhall Southampton November 4, Norwich UEA 5, Nottingham Rock City 6, Manchester Academy 7, O2 Academy Glasgow 10, Leeds Stylus 11, O2 Academy Bristol 12, Birmingham Institute 13, London O2 Academy Brixton 14. Support: Crossfaith, Hed(p.e.), Yashin.

SLAYER

Newport Centre November 21, Plymouth Pavilions 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 24, O2 Academy Glasgow 25, O2 Academy Birmingham 27, O2 Academy Leeds 28, O2 Academy Brixton 30. Support: Anthrax, Kvelertak.

SOULFLY

London O2 Academy Islington July 25, Cardiff Globe 26, O2 Academy 2 Birmingham 27, Manchester Club Academy 28, Sheffield Corporation 29, Stoke Sugarmill 30.

STATE CHAMPS

Belfast QUB Students' Union September 15, Dublin Academy 11 16, O2 Academy 2 Liverpool 17, Birmingham Asylum 18, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 19, Glasgow King Tut's 21, Leeds Stylus 22, Manchester Sound Control 23, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 24, London O2 Academy Islington 25, Southampton 1865 26, Kingston Hippodrome October 3. Support: Knuckle Puck, ROAM.

THE STORY SO FAR

Cardiff Yplas December 1, Southampton 1865 2,

Exeter Lemon Grove 3, London Camden KOKO 4, Norwich Epic 5, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 7, Birmingham Asylum 8, Manchester Academy 11 9, Glasgow Garage 10, Newcastle Riverside 11, Leeds Stylus 12.

THY ART IS MURDER

Manchester Sound Control August 11, London Camden Barfly 12.

TIM RIPPER OWENS

Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms July 16, London Garage Highbury 17, Norwich Waterfront 18, Plymouth Exile 19, Cardiff Fuel Rock Bar 20, Sheffield South Sea Live 21, Sutton Diamond 22, Selby Venue 23, Manchester Academy 11 24, O2 ABC Glasgow 25. Support: Memories In Torment, Past The Fall.

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

O2 ABC Glasgow November 4, Manchester Ritz 5, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 6, O2 Academy Oxford 7, Birmingham Institute 9.

VANS WARPED TOUR UK

Line-up: Asking Alexandria, Black Veil Brides, Young Guns, Reel Big Fish, Metro Station, Memphis May Fire, Anti-Flag, August Burns Red, Attila, The Word Alive, Ghost Town, Rob Lynch, Fearless Vampire Killers, Blitz Kids, Forever Came Calling, The Rocket Summer, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Trophy Eyes, Roam, The One Hundred, In Hearts Wake, John Coffey, Twin Wild, Tigress, Boy Jumps Ship, Creeper, Allusondrugs, London Alexandra Palace October 18.

WE ARE THE OCEAN

Birmingham Asylum November 9, Cardiff Globe 10, Bristol Fleece 11, Norwich Waterfront Studio 12, Leeds Mine 13, Glasgow King Tut's 15, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 16, Manchester Sound Control 17, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 18, London O2 Academy Islington 20.

THE XCERTS

London Camden Dingwells August 26. Support: Only Rivals.

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the MU? Probably.
If I was starting out again, would
I still join? Definitely.'

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longer than me. Helping musicians
of all ages and genres. Let's
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THE ULTIMATE ROCKSTAR TEST

CHRIS MOTIONLESS MOTIONLESS IN WHITE

A HATRED FOR INSECTS AND NIGHTS SPENT IN CAT PISS – THE LIFE AND TIMES OF CHRIS MOTIONLESS...



**ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...
HOW WOULD YOU DEAL WITH
BEING STUCK IN ONE OF
THE TRAPS FROM THE
SAW MOVIES?**

"Dude, I genuinely worry about these things! Whenever I work on my chest at the gym, I think of that one trap where the dude has to put hooks in his chest and haul himself up, and think I would never fucking do that! I'd never be able to put myself through that and would just let myself die! Maybe when frightened for my life I'd think differently, but I'm pretty sure I'd be fucked either way!"



ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

**WHAT'S THE NASTIEST PLACE
YOU'VE SLEPT WHILE ON TOUR?**

"Early on we'd ask if anyone had a place for us to crash so we didn't have to stay in the van overnight, and in Texas this girl said we could stay at hers. We went back to her trailer, and seven of us had to fit onto the couch and floor – both of which were covered in cat and dog piss and fur! The smell hit you straight away, so a few of us slept in the van in the unbearable heat that night!"



**HAVE YOU EVER HAD TO FLEE A VENUE DUE
TO DAMAGE DONE WHILE YOU
WERE THERE?**

"No, but we've had promoters tell us off. I don't know what the fuck happened to rock'n'roll, man. Once we were being stupid and throwing food around and being dumb in the dressing room, and we got extremely yelled at for it! I understand you should be respectful, but if you think about how shit used to be, we're really not that bad!"

**WHAT'S YOUR MOST
EXTRAVAGANT PURCHASE?**

"I'm a big suit guy, and we were performing at an awards ceremony, so I took that as an excuse to buy one I've had my eye on. I went to New York City and dropped \$8,000 [£5,500] on it, and it happens to be the same exact suit Daniel Craig is wearing on the Skyfall cover. Wearing it is a total dream, worth every penny."

OO7? More like 00666...

ON YOUR OWN MUSIC...

**WHAT'S THE SHORTEST SONG
ON CREATURES?**

"Abigail. When we were writing it we were running out of time and in a hurry to finish it, and as soon as it sounded like a complete song, we moved on, but that pressure actually made it the best it could be."

Correct, even your answer is short

**IN THE AMERICA VIDEO [DIRECTED BY
SLIPKNOT'S CLOWN], WHAT'S ON THE PIN
ON THE BUSINESS MAN'S COLLAR?**

"I'm gonna guess that it's an American flag? It's USA? Oh, man, so close! That would have been Clown's choice, we worked very closely on the details but he was responsible for dressing that character."

It's surprising he didn't dress him in big shoes

**YOU'VE COVERED ROB
ZOMBIE'S DRAGULA –
WHAT YEAR WAS THE
ORIGINAL RELEASED?**

"Oh, man! Um, 1997? It's '98? Fuck, so close! I remember that album coming out and everyone I knew had it, and it was a lot of fun to cover."

You don't have this 'covered'...

**WOULD YOU RATHER BE A CONTESTANT
ON BIG BROTHER OR HAVE TEETH PULLED?**

"I might go with Big Brother: I've never watched it much but I get the idea. I'd wonder how I would fit in with the rest of the people, because from what I can tell most of them are fucking braindead! Out of curiosity, it might be interesting to find out if a person who actually thought about things would be able to fit in at all!"

**HOW WOULD YOU HANDLE
WAKING UP TO FIND
YOUR HAIR HAD TURNED
INTO SNAKES?**

"Firstly I would wonder if someone would turn into stone if I stared at them! After that, as long as they didn't start biting my face, I'd get on with my day. Snakes I'm fine with, it's spiders I can't handle. From the smallest to the biggest, burn the house down and get me out of there! Australia's the worst for that, that's where the scariest ones live – I don't know if I'd survive seeing one of those up close!"

You haven't mentioned snake shampoo. Prepared for that already?



SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

DO INSECTS HAVE SOULS?

"If you crush an ant does it experience the 'oh fuck, am I gonna die?' moment? I'm gonna say no, but that doesn't mean they don't have feelings. And spiders are definitely soulless creatures."

They speak very highly of you...

**"I SPENT EIGHT
GRAND ON JAMES
BOND'S SUIT!"**

CHRIS MOTIONLESS

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6	GENE SIMMONS	KISS	96%
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8	JOE ELLIOTT	DEF LEPPARD	95%
9	SATCHEL	STEEL PANTHER	92%
10	CHRIS MOTIONLESS	MOTIONLESS IN WHITE	75%

71	BOB MOULD	HÜSKER DÜ/SUGAR	64%
72	AUSTIN CARLILE	OF MICE & MEN	61%
73	ALEX GASKARTH	ALL TIME LOW	55%



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